

Hafa Adai!

Firm willing to give \$300,000 for road pavement. **PAGE 5**

Arenovski resigns from Saipan Chamber. **PAGE 7**

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75¢

Public backs extension but...



By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

Members of the community showed up to support the request of Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC for more time to finish its multimillion-dollar casino-hotel, but many pushed for conditions that have to be put in place to benefit both the investor and the community.

Close to 20 spoke up when CNMI Lottery Commission chair Mark Rauliman opened the floor to public

See PUBLIC on Page 4

Members of the community, Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC workers and officials, and CNMI officials were in attendance in yesterday's CNMI Lottery Commission meeting to discuss IPI's extension request to finish the Garapan casino-hotel.

6.6-magnitude quake shakes NMI

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
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REPORTER

Commonwealth residents were in the midst of their early morning routines yesterday when a 6.6-magnitude earthquake hit the CNMI—said to be the strongest earthquake the CNMI has so far felt this year.

The temblor occurred at 8:35am yesterday, and its epicenter was located 87 miles southeast of the Farallon de Mendinilla at a depth of 32 miles.

There were no reports of injuries or property damage and the Pacific Tsunami Warning Center did not issue a tsunami warning or alert.

Tinian resident and poet Joseph

See QUAKE on Page 4



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Golden Harvest International School conducted an earthquake drill after yesterday morning's 6.6-magnitude temblor.

Typhoon won't affect Saipan

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
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REPORTER

For the most part, the CNMI will be spared the full wrath of Tropical Storm Jebi, which has slowly intensified in the last 24 hours.

According to Nadine Deleon Guerrero, CNMI Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency's public relations officer, Saipan will not be impacted by the threat of Tropical Storm Jebi even if it has already morphed into a typhoon.

Despite this, the typhoon will still be felt in the far northern part of the Marianas, specifically

Agrihan, Pagan, and Alamagan—regions that were also impacted when Typhoon Cimaron hit the CNMI a week ago.

Deleon Guerrero said that Tropical Storm Jebi is forecasted to directly hit the Northern Islands and not just pass through.

The CNMI Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency has been communicating with the residents of the Northern Islands and said that they are preparing for the storm.

"They are very resilient up there and they have been preparing," said Deleon Guerrero.

See TYPHOON on Page 4

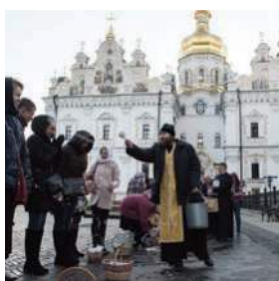
INSIDE



NATION

The young man who opened fire at a Florida video game tournament had a mental illness.

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FOCUS

Russian hackers also targeted the world's most senior Orthodox Christian figures.

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LIFE & STYLE

Cate Blanchett tells the U.N. Security Council that nothing prepared her for the suffering of the Rohingya.

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Local

FROM 2007-2011

18 cases of cancer among 17-and-under

By ERWIN ENCINARES
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REPORTER

The Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. reports 18 incidents of cancer among children 17 years old and younger.

CHCC reported a five-year average of 3.6 newly diagnosed cancer cases for children 17 years and younger in 2011.

In 2011, the incidences of cancer among 17 years old and below age range has climbed to 22.5 per 100,000. Among 14- and below age range, the cancer rate was at 20.7 per 100,000.

CHCC noted that between 2007 through 2011, a total of 18 cases of cancer were diagnosed between the ages of 0 through 17 in the CNMI, while leukemia ac-

counted for 33.3 percent of cancers in the 0-17 age group.

The numbers were cited during the proclamation signing yesterday for Childhood Cancer Awareness Month, which was signed by acting governor Victor B. Hocog. The proclamation, which was signed in conjunction with the Prostate Cancer Awareness

Month, states that there have been significant strides in cancer research due to the work of the National Cancer Institute, scientists and cancer researchers, and the "rest of the world."

Angel Ray Guerrero, the first to donate a sample of his tumor to the University of Hawaii Cancer Center, was diagnosed in 2007 at the age of 12

with medullablastoma, a type of brain tumor that is commonly found in males aged 8 to 18. This type of cancer, according to CHCC, more likely affects people within the Pacific region.

In his message to parents with children who have cancer, Guerrero said, "I commend you. [I suggest you] get as much

help as you can because your family and children need that life. They never asked for it. I never asked for it," he said with a pause. "We continue to fight, and each and every cancer patient has their own journey."

Guerrero underwent almost two years of treatment in Honolulu, Hawaii.

Cancer survivor to join Ironman

By ERWIN ENCINARES
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REPORTER

Acting governor Victor B. Hocog proclaimed September yesterday as the CNMI Prostate Cancer Awareness Month—an event highlighted by a prostate cancer survivor announcing his bid to participate in Ironman 70.3 Saipan next month.

Florence Antonio has survived stage 3 prostate cancer after surgery in late 2015 followed by four consecutive operations within the next three months.

"I was diagnosed in May 2015. I was told to [undergo other treatments] besides the surgery, but I chose to go with the surgery," he said, adding that he has been cancer-free since his operation.

Antonio underwent two additional gall bladder surgeries within the first two weeks of January and soon after two additional surgeries for his abdominal hernia and another complication.

Antonio urges men who are at least 45 years old to undergo prostate cancer screening, contrary to the well-known suggested age of 55 years old.

"...I don't believe in the

[recommended age]. Earlier is better. At 45 years old, I think it is the best time," he said, emphasizing the importance of screening, especially among families who have had histories with prostate cancer.

"I want to show to the world that after all the surgeries and after being a cancer survivor, ...I can still do the half Ironman," he said, adding that he also wishes to participate in the full Ironman after two years.

The proclamation Hocog signed yesterday noted that prostate cancer remains the most commonly diagnosed non-skin cancer among men across the nation, that about 230,000 men in the U.S. learned last year that they have prostate cancer.

About 30,000 men throughout the nation lost their lives to the disease in 2010, while one in six men in the nation are at risk of developing prostate cancer during their lifetime. About one-third of prostate cancer occurs in men under the age of 65 during their prime work years, and at any age, prostate cancer devastates families through loss of income, partnership, and support.

Status of CUC projects go under microscope

U.S. District Court for the NMI designated Judge David O. Carter held talks on Monday afternoon with the Gilbane Federal/Engineering and Environmental Management Co., and representatives of the U.S. government and the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. regarding several CUC projects.

A PowerPoint presentation by Daryl Greenway, Gilbane Federal/EEMC project leader principal, and Jeff Hess, EEMC consultant, focused on task force orders, possible issues, possible vendors, and expenses.

CUC legal counsel James Sirok and U.S. Department of Justice Environmental Enforcement Section senior attorney Bradley O'Brien addressed Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality permits and timeline for tentative hearing dates.

Hess also did a PowerPoint

presentation on facility drainage, incinerators, suppliers, and materials.

According to the minutes of the meeting, Carter and the parties addressed court registry funds, EEMC funds, Technical Manager for Oil funds, grant funding, and cost estimate.

Carter also discussed contact water, drainage and funding.

Carter then had an off-the-record meeting with Sirok and O'Brien.

Hess continued with a PowerPoint presentation regarding oil tank, generators, and power plants. Carter addressed CUC executive director Gary Camacho's report regarding oil disposal and tank cleaning.

Carter and the parties talked about the court registry funding balance.

The status conference will continue today, Wednesday, at 9am. (Ferdie de la Torre)

We have text.

We have photos.

Now we also have videos. ▶

Check out the video section of the Saipan Tribune website.

CEC has had no problems with 5 tabulators

The Commonwealth Election Commission has not had any problems with the five tabulating machines it purchased in 2003, according to CEC executive director Juliana Villagomez.

Villagomez said the machine, despite their age—15 years old—are very accurate and fast.

The equipment were purchased from Election Systems and Software in Nebraska.

For this Nov. 6 general election, ESS will be sending technician to service the five counting machines, Villagomez said. The technician may arrive days close to the election.

Normally, the technician

will just clean the machines and change the rubber parts, she said.

CEC has been using three machines for Saipan, and one machine each for Tinian and Rota.

The machines are stored at CEC's office. **(Ferdie de la Torre)**

CUC says payment of govt arrears will have good impact on consumer rates

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

With the CNMI central government paying off its arrears with the Commonwealth Utilities Corp., this will have a tremendously good impact on existing power and water consumer rates, according to CUC executive director Gary P. Camacho.

"It is true. They are current. It is exciting," said Camacho when asked about Gov. Ralph DLG Torres' announcement regarding the central government's settling of its arrears with CUC.

At the State of the Commonwealth Address last Friday, Torres shared that, for the first time in decades, the central government settled its arrears with CUC, bringing all central government accounts current.

Eliminating over \$1.9 million in arrears will enable CUC to re-invest these revenues in critical

water infrastructure to meet the goal of providing 24-hour water service, Torres said.

Camacho said the central government and CUC have gone through a long process and this has resulted in the payment of a substantial amount of arrears. "We're taking [that] money and re-investing it back in our operations," he said.

He said re-investing the money gives CUC more leeway on consumer rates because CUC now has the revenue it needs to sustain operations.

"It is imperative that we sustain our operations. It is imperative that we do that through revenue from our sales," he said.

Camacho said this allows CUC not to be too concerned with raising utility rates. "Now we are getting paid. It's wonderful," he added.

In February 2017, it was re-

ported that the CNMI government entered a confidential settlement agreement with CUC to resolve CUC's lawsuit against the government over non-payment of its \$1.2 million debt.

With the settlement deal, Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho then dismissed CUC's lawsuit.

Assistant attorney general Charles Brasington, counsel for the government, and CUC counsel Michael A. White, informed the court about the parties' settlement agreement, resolving the lawsuit effective Jan. 1, 2017.

According to court records, in December 2013, CUC filed the lawsuit alleging that the government was indebted to the utility company in the principal sum of \$1,241,137.86, together with pre-judgment interest. CUC alleged that the government breached their utility contract.

'33 pct. of adults didn't engage in physical activity for a month

The newly formed Physical Activity Council emphasized Tuesday the importance of physical activity during a presentation to the Rotary Club of Saipan by noting that a chunk of adults didn't engage in any physical activity in over a month.

Council chair Samantha Birmingham-Babauta noted in her presentation that, according to the CNMI non-communicable diseases and risk factor hybrid survey report of 2016, 33 percent of adults self-

reported not having participated in physical activity or exercise during the past month.

Babauta said the council wants to increase participation in exercise from 67 percent to 77 percent by 2021.

The council hopes to achieve this through two ways: Using a logo that will market physical activity as a fun event and creating an internship program for high school or middle school students that will teach students to lead elementary school kids

in physical activities.

"Engaging in physical activity, especially if you [live] a sedentary lifestyle has... benefits [such as] lowering your blood pressure; cholesterol levels; reducing body fat percentages all while increasing lean muscle mass," Birmingham-Babauta noted. "We have high obesity rates in the islands and we have high rates of type II diabetes, which is...linked to poor diet and the lack of exercise." **(Erwin Encinares)**

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PUBLIC

From Page 1

comments, with many citizens and other officials expressing concerns and sharing their thoughts in yesterday's meeting at a packed conference room of the Office of the Governor on Capital Hill.

Rabauliman, who is also the Department of Commerce secretary, said he was pleased by the interest the community showed at the meeting.

"Throughout the morning session, we heard a lot of public comments. Those [concerns] are some things that we're going to take into consideration," he said. "There was support for an extension but a lot of it revolved around conditions. Some were suggesting extreme conditions and some were talking about extending but with conditions that... would work both for the CNMI and IPI."

He said that the analogy Rep. Joseph Leepan T. Guerrero (R-Saipan) expressed at the meeting best sums up the sentiments of the people who spoke up.

"I really liked the analogy that [Leepan Guerrero], who spoke in the vernacular, said regarding the chicken. Rather than trying to kill it, because you won't be able to eat it, put some conditions to allow it to [lay] more eggs," said Rabauliman.

He added that the same thing should be done with IPI—assist them so they could complete the project but make sure the CNMI won't be at any disadvantage.

Rabauliman said that Lottery Commission members took notes of all the comments and would discuss these matters, along with the recommendations presented by the Development Planning Advisory Committee.



The CNMI Lottery Commission met yesterday at a packed conference room of the Office of the Governor on Capital Hill.

JON PEREZ

"A lot of those things were put in our notes and that will be some of the things that we're going to discuss, along with the DPAC's recommendations," said Rabauliman, who is joined by Finance Secretary Larrisa Larson and Public Safety Commissioner Robert Guerrero on the Lottery Commission.

Rabauliman thanked those who shared their concerns during the public comments, "whether you're in support of with or without conditions." He assured that the commission would consider all comments.

Comments

One of the critics of the casino project, Rep. Edwin K. Propst (Ind-Saipan), said it was déjà vu with IPI again requesting an extension, now a sixth time, to complete their mega structure in Garapan.

"It is kind of strange we had promises that the project would be done, in good faith we accepted it. But things happen and we know that. We understand that. We support the extension but with certain conditions. We support the extension but it needs to be at the best interest of our people."

Some of the conditions

that Propst suggested were a performance bond for the Garapan casino hotel and for IPI to submit a semi-annual construction progress report where fines would be imposed if the project does not meet mandated targets.

"Let us support the extension but with conditions that will benefit and protect our people, and our future generations to come. Our children are counting on us to do the right thing. I pray we do," he said.

Former lawmaker Tina Sablan said that common sense conditions should be put in place before granting the extension request. "Such conditions would also be consistent with the recommendations of [DPAC], which in its Aug. 11, 2018 report to the governor called for the Commonwealth and IPI to negotiate terms that would lead to a higher probability of project success."

Some of Sablan's suggestions included having a U.S. Treasury-listed payment and performance bond, an independent monitoring program, stronger protection for U.S. workers, disclosure of IPI's plans, more accountability for the community chest fund, disclosure of reports of IPI's compliance with regulatory

standards, and disclosure of all DPAC, IPI, and Commonwealth Casino Commission reports including the financial status and payment of tax obligations. **See Page 11.**

Sen. Sixto K. Igisomar (R-Saipan), who is the former chairman of the Retirement Fund, reminded everyone of the condition of his former agency and the entire CNMI before IPI invested millions of dollars in the Commonwealth.

"We all knew the kind of challenges we face in every new project. We knew all the experiences that we suffered. The availability of workers was already a problem. The Retirement Fund [back then] was underwater, way beyond it, the CNMI truly needed a quick solution."

Bertita Camacho John, a retiree, said IPI has done a lot to the community through various projects like painting youth centers and cleaning schools. She added IPI's investment also allowed retirees like her to receive their pension in full.

"Before, I was receiving only 75 percent of my pension. Now, it is now 100 percent because [IPI] contributed the 25 percent. Our islands were in so much debt and struggling

when the garment factory [industry] left."

"There were austerity measures and government employees did not have salary increases. Now, that's no more. Be mindful of that."

Alex Sablan, chairman of the business group Northern Marianas Business Alliance Corp., said IPI has provided two-thirds of the CNMI's budget and gave the Commonwealth treasury over \$200 million since its inception.

He said there are conditions in the casino license agreement that needs to be implemented properly. "We've had conditions put on the CLA that existed. We need to see these conditions. Remedies put in place and continue to be dealt with."

Former lieutenant gover-

nor Diego Benavente said the events in the past few months now has the Lottery Commission facing a tough decision. But protecting the CNMI economy should also be considered.

"My concern is with the other families of retirees and the entire CNMI. It will be an easy decision, if you think about the reason, and that is to protect the economy and industry that provides the government funds for public service—education, public safety, and others."

"We've experienced a lot in the past. Look at the other industries that we had: garment and tourism. We struggled when the garment factories left and tourism dipped. Now we're back up."

TYPHOON

From Page 1

As of 5pm yesterday, Jebi was located about 425 miles east of Alamagan, about 435 miles east of Pagan, about 450 miles east-southeast of Agrihan, about 455 miles east-northeast of Saipan, about 515 miles east-northeast of Rota, and about 560 miles east-northeast of Guam.

Maximum sustained winds of 65 mph can be expected as Tropical Storm Jebi hits and

was reported to be moving west-northwest at 12 mph.

Tropical Storm Jebi is moving toward the west-northwest at 12 mph and is expected to make a slight turn toward the west with little change in forward speed through today. Tropical Storm Jebi is forecast to intensify. Maximum sustained winds remain at 65 mph.

Tropical storm force winds extend outward from the center up to 140 miles to the north and up to 105 miles to the south.

QUAKE

From Page 1

Connolly said he was "sitting in my kitchen having oatmeal and tea when my chair moved back and forth [and] the whole kitchen seemed to move back and forth."

"Kitchen utensils on cup hooks moved back and forth. It was for the longest duration I have ever felt in the CNMI since 1984 when I moved here from the mainland. ... When I went into my bedroom to send [an] email, a cork bulletin board [that] hangs in front of my desk was still moving back and forth," he added.

Connolly said the tremor felt like it lasted several seconds.

According to Nadine Deleon Guerrero, CNMI Homeland Security's public relations officer, the tremor was so far the strongest earthquake felt in the CNMI in 2018.

Deleon Guerrero assured that tremors happen daily in the CNMI region but it isn't felt due to the depth and magnitude.

When asked when the CNMI community should take action, Deleon Guerrero said evacuation is necessary once the earthquake is reported to be a magnitude 8.1 or higher or if the tremor lasts for more than 20 seconds.

Yesterday, the community responded accordingly, with government agencies and

schools practicing the appropriate earthquake procedure.

Mt. Carmel School practiced its earthquake procedures by keeping students beneath their desks for the duration of the earthquake and escorting them to the designated earthquake assembly area after the tremor.

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. also practiced earthquake procedures by evacuating the main CUC building in Dandan during the earthquake and waiting for the all-clear signal from authorities before returning to the building.

Deleon Guerrero said that Homeland Security is thankful to the cooperation shown by the CNMI community by following protocol as well as keeping themselves updated through the Homeland Security Emergency Management's social media pages.

Deleon Guerrero added that once individuals are advised to evacuate during an earthquake, the assembly areas are located on Capital Hill, Navy Hill, and the Saipan airport field. Individuals may also evacuate to higher ground like San Vicente or Dandan.

She assured that Homeland Security will also have its app, ReadyCNMI, back up by next week for the CNMI community to easily access information from the Emergency Management Office. There were complaints yesterday that the app did not work.

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

American Sinopan LLC, a

company that wants to build 12 villas and a clubhouse on Capital Hill—on top of their investment to renovate the old

NOAA presents HSEM \$579,981 grant for tsunami preparedness

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration has awarded \$579,981 in total grant funding to the CNMI Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management for the purpose of building awareness and preparedness within the Commonwealth for hazards and potential threats related to tsunamis.

According to Gov. Ralph DLG Torres yesterday, the grant award will strengthen ongoing outreach programs and the revitalization of existing and new tsunami evacuation zones and assembly sites.

“Over the last two years, we’ve strengthened our planning and foresight in regards to emergency preparedness, particularly since Typhoon Soudelor. Our emergency preparedness plans also include preparing for tsunamis after earthquakes,” said Torres. “This grant award will help us in mitigating the impact of tsunamis through public education, community response planning, hazard assessment, and warning coordination. I commend our HSEM team for their continued diligence in preparing for disasters and increasing our capacity through federal and regional partnership. Preparedness remains a priority and responsibility for our entire community, and this funding will go a long way in keeping us safer and more informed.”

HSEM external affairs officer Nadine C. Deleon Guerrero noted that yesterday’s earth-

quake highlighted the importance of preparing and executing an emergency plan.

“Although the upcoming award will assist in funding an additional two fixed-position sirens in the CNMI, we are excited to also have funding available to further educate and provide awareness to the community. In times of tsunamis, the most important aspect outside of public information and warnings is ensuring our residents are well-educated and aware of the necessary precautionary measures needed to be taken in an effort to save lives and mitigate loss of property as best we can. This includes the inception of a family emergency plan, and not just creating one, but knowing the importance of exercising that plan to validate its effectiveness,” Deleon Guerrero said.

HSEM grants manager Brien S. Nicholas Jr. said the grant covers a fixed siren warning system, neowave modeling for the Port of Saipan, awareness training and exercises, education and outreach, evacuation, assembly and hazard zone signage, and emergency trainings for personnel.

“With yesterday’s report of a 6.6-magnitude earthquake just southeast of Farallon de Medinilla, I continue to urge our community to become more aware and better prepared for emergencies that may threaten our islands moving forward,” Nicholas said. **(PR)**

Settlement conference is advised in ‘pregnancy discrimination’ suit

U.S. District Court for the NMI designated Judge David O. Carter advised yesterday the parties in a pregnancy discrimination lawsuit filed by a former biologist of the Department of Lands and Natural Resources’ Division of Fish and Wildlife to consider a settlement conference.

Carter heard the motions filed by the defendants that Dr. Anne M. Orlando named in her lawsuit. Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona had recused from the case.

Carter then placed the matter under advisement and stated that a written order would follow.

Orlando is suing DLNR and DFW officials for allegedly discriminating against her due to her pregnancy.

Robert Pickett argued in support of DLNR and DFW defendants. Rene Holmes represented Orlando.



Carter

Holmes insist that Orlando exhausted her administrative remedies and that the federal court should deny a motion to dismiss her complaint.

Holmes said there is also no lack of jurisdiction.

Holmes said the court should also deny defendants’ motion alleging misjoinder of parties in the lawsuit as DFW and the official-capacity defendants are proper parties.

DFW hired Orlando on Feb. 9, 2015, as a wildlife biologist supervisor. DPW renewed her contract for Oct. 1, 2016, through Sept. 30, 2017, according to court documents. **(Ferdie de la Torre)**

Firm willing to give \$300,000 for road pavement

Magellan Hotel—is willing to donate \$300,000 to have the road leading to the project’s location paved.

With that \$300,000 and the \$700,000 that they plan to donate to improve the water supply to the surrounding areas, this will bring the company’s planned community contribution to \$1 million, according to American Sinopan LLC chief executive officer Ken Lin.

In an interview with *Saipan Tribune*, Lin said they promised last year during the public hearing for their Heaven II Resort project on Capital Hill to

help improve the road.

He said the road to the area used to be riddled with potholes. In the past two months, he said, American Sinopan has been putting base materials as their initiative to fill the potholes, making it easier for residents to drive on the road.

Lin said that once they are done with the 12 villas and clubhouse project, American Sinopan is committed to helping the Department of Public Works and the Saipan Mayor’s Office pave the road. He said it is not advisable to pave the road while

construction for the project is ongoing because trucks will be going back and forth and this may damage the road.

However, once the project is done after 24 months, American Sinopan will then work with the DPW and the mayor’s office to pave the road, Lin said. He said their target is to pave 3,160 linear feet; by calculating only the pavement itself, this will cost them \$300,000.

Lin said there are many other factors to consider such as drainage, storm water, and other things.

With the \$1 million donation, the company plans to ask the government for a waiver on its 2 percent developer’s tax.

Lin earlier disclosed that their company is willing to donate \$700,000 so that the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. can build a bigger water pipe—and thereby improve the water supply—in that area.

Last June, American Sinopan held a small groundbreaking ceremony for the construction of its project on Sapan, the Saipan Garden Resort in Tanapag.

American Sinopan’s mother company, SinoPan, is based in Shanghai.

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Lack of quorum stymies Zoning board hearing

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Zoning board public hearing set for yesterday at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe was cancelled due to lack of quorum.

Saipan Tribune learned that one board member was ill and the other, Joel C. Camacho, had to take a leave of absence after he was certified as a candidate in the Nov. 6 general election.

By law, the board must have seven members; it takes four members to establish a quorum.

"We need seven board members but now we only have four," said a board member.

The board is wondering why Gov. Ralph DLG Torres has not appointed a complete board.

Currently, Diego C. Blanco is the chairman, while Bruce Bateman is the vice chairman. Mariano Taitano serves as the treasurer, Joe Ayuyu Jr. is the secretary, and Joel C. Camacho is a member.

Camacho is running as a Republican for Precinct 4 of the House of the Representatives.

A board member said they did not even show up at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center Tuesday. "This is always a

» **Law requires board to have 7 members, 4 to have quorum**

» **With one on leave for election, board currently has 4 members**

concern whenever we plan for board meeting.

The law requires seven members but we only had five at the most," the member said.

Among the topics set at the cancelled hearing were the American Sino-pan LLC's proposal to amend its conditional use permit to include the construction of 12 villas and a clubhouse on Capitol Hill, and the Eunice

SPN Corp.'s proposal to occupy two existing one-story structures to operate a bed

Sergeants first class Cxyz Leonen, Carlito Dahilig and Brian Cruz, from the Guam Army National Guard, became the first Guam Guard soldiers to attend and graduate from the U.S. Army's master leaders course, on Aug. 27, at the Non-commissioned Officers Academy in Fort Stewart, Georgia.

The master leaders course curriculum included APA-style writing, mission command, army warfighting functions, joint operations planning and MDMP.

MLC is a new course created by the U.S. Army Cen-

ter of Excellence to develop

adaptive and critical thinking leaders. MLC is now a professional military education requirement for promotion to the rank of master sergeant. (PR)

Guam Guard soldiers graduate from the U.S. Army master leaders course

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

FERDIE DE LA TORRE
File photo shows the Commonwealth Zoning board at a meeting.



Aug. 23, but it was cancelled to accommodate logistics for Torres' State of the Common-

wealth Address, which was held last Friday at the Multi-Purpose Center.



Amata thanks Bordallo's service

WASHINGTON, D.C.— Delegate Aumua Amata (R-A. Samoa) released the following statement yesterday, thanking Delegate Madeleine Bordallo (D-GU) for her lengthy and effective public service:

"It has been a privilege working with...Bordallo many times on shared bipartisan priorities for the Pacific region or our islands' veterans over the past four years. Many years before we worked together in Congress, our fathers worked together [on] Saipan for the U.S. administration of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, and we've both been blessed to follow in their tradition. I appreciate and value the friendship she displayed for American Samoa throughout her 16 years of decisive influence in the U.S. Congress."

"...Bordallo has served Guam in some public capac-

ity almost continuously since 1975. She has compiled a remarkable track record as a legislator, and is known in Congress as a leader and an effective, committed lawmaker. Since 2002, she has served in the U.S. Congress, and due to her seniority, is the dean of the members from the five island territories. She is a highly influential member of the Armed Services Committee and the Natural Resources Committee, and both committees are integral to Guam and the territories. She serves as the vice chair of the Asian Pacific American Caucus. In these roles and more...Bordallo is a longstanding and persuasive public voice for the Pacific islands, and for issues about which she cares deeply, such as priorities for women or environmental needs. Thank you...Bordallo, for your distinguished service." (PR)



NEW LION'S CLUB

The newly officers of the Saipan Centennial Lion's Club are inducted at the Kanoa Resort Saipan in Susupe last Sunday. The new officers are Charter president Arceli Lizama and vice presidents Jasmina Guiao and Ruth Reyes. Other officers include club membership chairperson Carmel Joan Cabrera, secretary Ligaya Mangahis, assistant secretary Grace Cruz, treasurer Lourdes Ortiz, assistant treasurer Aurelia Rodriguez, club service chairperson Angelo Tiamzon, membership director Nenita Marquez, safety officer Manolo Rosales, first year director Juanito Sarmiento, second year director June Ortiz; and special officers Federico Ortiz and Vilma Emboltorio.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

DYS eyes new classroom for KCC

The Division of Youth Services, which handles the renovation of the Kagman Community Cen-

ter, wants to add an additional classroom to the center.

According to DYS admin-

istrator Vivian Sablan, her division is looking to use the \$300,000 it got from the Community Development Block Grant funding under the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to renovate the community center and implement several expansions.

The \$300,000 grant was secured through the Northern Marianas Housing Corp., Sablan said.

"We wanted to expand our outlets. DYS is managing the Tanapag Youth Center and the KCC," she said, noting the need to secure the building's structural integrity as well as the need to expand the KCC.

Sablan believes that with an ad-

ditional classroom, the community center will be able to better provide for the youth in the area.

"With that addition, we will be able to expand our programs and services. Right now, we are limited because we are only utilizing one main classroom and several smaller rooms. Upon the completion of this renovation, we would be able to...hold events here throughout the year," she said.

According to Sablan, the community center at KCC housed 50 students during their after-school programs last school year.

"After the renovations, we are hoping to double, or even

triple [attendees] of the programs so that more opportunities are available, not only for Kagman residents, but even that of Papago, Capital Hill, and other areas," she said, adding that the community center is open to the public, regardless of their area of residence.

Sablan emphasized, however, that only non-profit events would be held at the new KCC.

An additional shower room, restroom, water tanks, etc. is included in the renovations.

"We are also working with the Capital Improvement Project office...for typhoon shutters for the center, a generator,

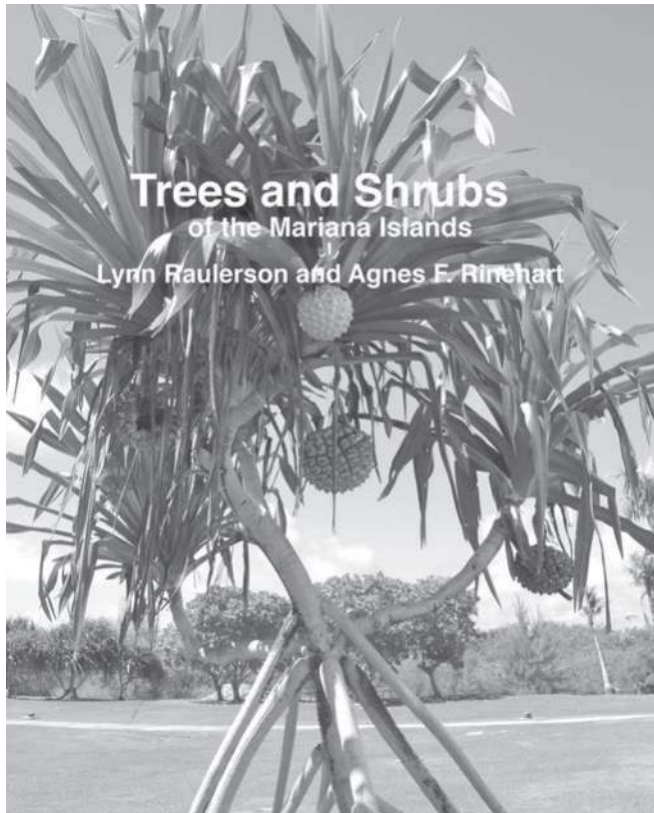
a generator house, and two water pumps," she added.

"...For so many years the KCC has been sitting idle, so we are moving along with the programs and making it known to the community that it is available," she said.

Since DYS came under the management of the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs, the division has been overseeing the KCC and offering programs in the center, Sablan said.

Though no specific date was disclosed, Sablan confirmed that renovations will be done soon. **(Erwin Encinares)**

UOG to launch revised botany book



A revised edition of *Trees and Shrubs of the Mariana Islands* by the late Lynn Raulerson and Agnes F. Reinhart will be launched at the University of Guam on Sept. 8 followed by a plant identification tour around the campus.

Hosted by UOG's Cooperative Extension & Outreach program at the College of Natural & Applied Sciences and the UOG Press with local produce refreshments provided by UOG's Triton Farm, the launch event will take place at 10am at the Agriculture & Life Sciences building.

The book offers readers images and information of 102 trees and shrubs that can be found around the Mariana Islands that have provided food, medicine, shelter, and countless other necessities for thousands of years. These natural resources continue to thrive and serve the people of these islands.

Trees and Shrubs of the Mariana Islands was originally published by Raulerson and Reinhart in 1991. With support from the Raulerson Living Trust, the Cooperative Extension & Outreach program partnered with the University of Guam Press to republish a revised edition including updated photographs, plant names, and information.

The book is intended to serve as a guide to help the public, school children, developers, and tourists to identify, propagate and maintain, and learn about the natural history and uses of some of the more important trees and shrubs of the Marianas. This revised edition, with durable, laminated pages to withstand varying weather conditions, is printed

to function as a field guide.

The revised edition will be available for sale at the launch for \$20 per book.

The launch will also include a plant identification tour led by Frank Camacho, a member of the Raulerson Living Trust and an associate professor of biology at UOG, and Claudine Camacho, who graduated from the biology program at UOG in 1991.

Camacho has more than 27 years of experience as an environmental consultant, including work conducting floristic surveys in the Mariana Islands with Raulerson. **(UOG)**

Arenovski resigns from Saipan chamber

After almost five years as Saipan Chamber of Commerce executive director, Jill Arenovski announced yesterday that she is leaving the post.

In an email to Chamber members, colleagues and media, Arenovski said she submitted her resignation this week. She still intends to continue at her job until the end of September.

She plans to join the private sector soon after. Arenovski said that there will be no slowing down for her after working at the Chamber. "There is no rest for me. I always have plans."

As Chamber executive director, Arenovski was in-charge of overseeing over 160 business members in the CNMI, was active in supporting Chamber committees such as armed forces, education, environmental, governmental relations, small business, and Saipan Young Professionals, organizing events and activities.



Jill Arenovski is leaving her post as executive director of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce, but said that she will still see everyone on island. **BEA CABRERA**

Arenovski said the position will be advertised immediately. **(Bea Cabrera)**

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
TINIAN MUNICIPAL SCHOLARSHIP BOARD
 Municipality of Tinian and Aguiguan
 PO Box 520059 • San Jose Village • Tinian, MP 96952
 Phone (670) 433-2200 • Fax (670) 433-1819
 Email: tinianscholarship@gmail.com

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9910(a), the Tinian Municipal Scholarship Board hereby gives notice that there will be a Special Meeting on Friday, August 31, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. at the Northern Marianas College, Tinian campus, building B (room E) in San Jose Village, Tinian.

AGENDA

- I. PRELIMINARY
 - A. Call to Order
 - B. Roll Call
 - C. Adoption of Agenda
 1. March 10, 2018
 - a. Recessed and Reconvened: August 10, 2019
 2. August 18, 2018
 - a. Recessed and Reconvened: August 25, 2018
- II. PUBLIC COMMENTS
- III. NEW BUSINESS
 - A. Vocational Education
 1. Training Assistance
- IV. MISCELLANEOUS
- V. SCHEDULE OF NEXT BOARD MEETING
- VI. EXECUTIVE SESSION
- VII. ADJOURNMENT

/s/ Rodney S. Cabarles
Acting Chairman

*We ask that remarks be limited to 3 minutes each. Everyone is welcomed to submit written comments on the day of the meeting.
 *Pursuant to 1 CMC section 9912, the Board may vote to meet in executive session at any time.
 *Individuals with special needs requiring special accommodations, please contact the TMSB office at least 48 hours prior to schedule meeting for assistance.

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality
 Division of Coastal Resources Management
 P.O. Box 501304, Saipan, MP 96950
 Tel.: (670) 664-8300; Fax: (670) 664-8315
 www.dcrmm.gov.mp

PUBLIC NOTICE OF THE CRM AGENCY OFFICIALS MEETING

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 11, Governor Ralph DLG. Torres and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog through the Division of Coastal Resources Management (DCRM) hereby give notice that a CRM Agency Officials meeting will be held on **Thursday, September 6, 2018 at 10:00AM** at the BECQ 2nd Floor Main Conference Room, Lower Gualo Rai, Saipan.

MEETING AGENDA

- I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS
 - A. Call to Order
 - B. Roll Call
 - C. Adoption of Agenda
 - D. Adoption of the May 18, 2018 Meeting Minutes
- II. PERMIT APPLICATION REVIEW

Project: Art Ridge Village Homes

The proposed Art Ridge Village Homes development will be a 7-story low-income apartment building with 48 units in total. Each floor will consist of eight units with each unit having three bedrooms and two bathrooms. Each apartment measures about 1,500 square feet and will include an energy efficient refrigerator, range/oven, an air conditioner and ceiling fans, solar water heaters, typhoon shutters, parking and other amenities.

CRM Permit Application No. SMS-2018-X-173

 - a) Discussion of Application Status
 - b) CRM Permit Application Final Determination
- III. OTHER MATTERS
- IV. ADJOURNMENT

All interested persons are welcome to attend and to submit written or oral testimony regarding the above agenda items. (NOTE: Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 13(a) (7) and Section 13(c), the Board may vote to meet in executive session).

/s/ JANICE E. CASTRO
Director, DCRM

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
 Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, 2nd Floor Arrival Bldg.
 P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950
 Phone: (670) 237-6500/1 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
 E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

JOINT AIRPORT, FINANCE AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE MEETING NOTICE
 Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 11, the Commonwealth Ports Authority hereby gives notice that a special Joint Airport, Finance and Personnel Committee Meeting will be held on Friday, August 31, 2018, beginning 9:00 a.m. in the Aircraft Rescue and Fire Fighting (ARFF) Classroom located in the Airport Fire Station at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport on the island of Saipan.

AGENDA

- I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS
 1. Call to Order
 2. Roll Call
 3. Adoption of Agenda
 4. Adoption of Minutes
- II. PUBLIC COMMENTS
- III. ITEMS:
 1. Directive — Salary and Hiring Freeze
 2. Saipan International Airport PAPI/REIL Installation Project — Change Order 1
- IV. EXECUTIVE SESSION
- V. MISCELLANEOUS
- VI. ADJOURNMENT

All interested persons are welcome to attend and to submit written or oral testimony on the above agenda items. A time limit will be imposed for oral testimony.

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Commonwealth Judiciary Administrative Office
 Guma' Hustisia, Iimwal Aweewe, House of Justice
 P.O. Box 502165, Saipan MP 96950
 Telephone (670) 236-9770 Facsimile (670)236-9797

INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: ITB 18-JUDICIARY-08

SUBMISSION DATE: September 19, 2018 TIME: 10:00 A.M.
"PURCHASE OF A VEHICLE (Pick-up Truck)
FOR THE CNMI Judiciary, Judicial Administrative Office"

The Commonwealth Judiciary ("Judiciary") is soliciting invitation for bids for a pick-up truck for the Judicial Administrative Office.

The Invitation for Bids and supporting documents may be obtained at the cashier's window, Window #1, located at the front of the Guma' Hustisia / Iimwal Aweewe / House of Justice, Susupe, Saipan, during regular working hours.

The Commonwealth reserves the right to reject any or all proposals, or portions thereof, and waive immaterial defects if to do so would be in the best interest of the CNMI government.

The provisions of the CNMI Procurement Regulations, NMIAC SECTIONS 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 prohibiting gratuities, kickbacks and contingent fees shall apply.

/s/ ALEXANDRO C. CASTRO
CHIEF JUSTICE

/s/ JOHN T. VILLAGOMEZ
JUDICIARY PROCUREMENT OFFICER

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: ITB 18-DLNR/DFW-136-CIF ROTA

SUBMISSION/OPENING DATE: SEPTEMBER 17, 2018 TIME: 09:00 A.M.
"PURCHASE OF ONE (1) PICK-UP TRUCK FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF LANDS & NATURAL RESOURCES, DIVISION OF FISH & WILDLIFE (ROTA BRANCH)"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENSION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/s/ ANTHONY T. BENAVENTE
SECRETARY, DLNR

/s/ MANUEL M. PANGELINAN
RDH DIRECTOR, DLNR

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Commonwealth Judiciary Administrative Office
 Guma' Hustisia, Iimwal Aweewe, House of Justice
 P.O. Box 502165, Saipan MP 96950
 Telephone (670) 236-9770 Facsimile (670)236-9797

INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: ITB 18-JUDICIARY-09

SUBMISSION DATE: September 19, 2018 TIME: 10:00 A.M.
"PURCHASE OF A VEHICLE (Utility Vehicle)
FOR THE CNMI Judiciary, Judicial Administrative Office"

The Commonwealth Judiciary ("Judiciary") is soliciting invitation for bids for a utility vehicle for the Judicial Administrative Office.

The Invitation for Bids and supporting documents may be obtained at the cashier's window, Window #1, located at the front of the Guma' Hustisia / Iimwal Aweewe / House of Justice, Susupe, Saipan, during regular working hours.

The Commonwealth reserves the right to reject any or all proposals, or portions thereof, and waive immaterial defects if to do so would be in the best interest of the CNMI government.

The provisions of the CNMI Procurement Regulations, NMIAC SECTIONS 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 prohibiting gratuities, kickbacks and contingent fees shall apply.

/s/ ALEXANDRO C. CASTRO
CHIEF JUSTICE

/s/ JOHN T. VILLAGOMEZ
JUDICIARY PROCUREMENT OFFICER

KMCV 2 News is Green Gala sponsor

KSPN2 News anchors/reporters and KSPN2 News team pose for the camera after signing up as a title sponsor of the Micronesia Islands Nature Alliance's Green Gala 2018.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



KMCV LLC, or Flame Tree TV Productions, has signed on as a title sponsor of the Micronesia Islands Nature Alliance's Green Gala 2018, with a presentation held at their studio with the KSPN2 News anchors/reporters and KSPN2 News team.

"The KSPN 2 News crew

is proud to support Micronesia Islands Nature Alliance in all of their endeavors to protect our islands, our home," said Adriana Coter, KSPN2 News anchor. "MINA is at the helm of conserving our environment, and this hard work does not go unnoticed. KSPN2 appreciates all that

you do! Thank you, MINA!"

Somia Quan, MINA vice chair, and Dave Guerrero, MINA's treasurer, were on hand for the presentation, and expressed their deep appreciation to KMCV's devoted team.

"KSPN 2 News covers so many highlights of the hap-

penings around the island, including the work that MINA does to conserve our island's natural resources, and really helps to spread the word about our mission," said Guerrero.

Quan echoed the organization's thanks to the news and production team at KMCV: "It's quality news reporting

that viewers can see and relate to about the challenges that MINA's rangers face on a daily basis. These stories have a positive impact on the message that our island's natural beauty is all we have, and it needs to be protected."

The Green Gala raises much-needed funds to con-

tinue the work started in 2005 with the mission of "Empowering Communities for Conservation." This year's gala is set for Sept. 14, 2018, at the Hibiscus Hall, Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan, and tickets are \$75. Call MINA at 233-7333 for more information. (MINA)

Caribbean, Pacific island students learn agriculture at UOG

The University of Guam College of Natural & Applied Sciences hosted college students from other tropical islands this summer for the 2018 Caribbean and Pacific Consortium Summer Agriculture Experiential Program.

College students from American Samoa, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and Guam took part in the two-week internship from June 11 to 22 that provided career-enhancing opportunities in both agricultural and environmental sciences.

"The program exposed me to relevant issues and topics that the people of Guam and other island nations are facing," said Daryll Keller, an undergraduate student studying tropical agriculture at UOG who participated in the program. "The practicality of the program further helped me to better prepare myself in solving real-world problems."

The program is funded through the U.S. Department of Agriculture Resident Instruction Grant Program, which was obtained by Dr. Mari Marutani, professor of horticulture at UOG's Western Pacific Tropical Research Center. It provides support to colleges and universities in insular areas for

various aspects of agriculture, food and nutrition, watershed preservation, and environmental exploration.

Dr. Hauhouot Diambra-Odi, associate professor of animal science with UOG's Cooperative Extension & Outreach unit, conducted the program at UOG, which included sessions on composting, poultry, plant extinction, sustainable agriculture, aquaponics, horticulture, irrigation, urban gardening, watersheds, and more.

Ferdinand Galsim, a research associate at the Western Pacific Tropical Research Center, presented to the students the only large-scale composting production in Guam. Students had the opportunity to observe the machine that turns the compost as well as other testing equipment used in making large-scale and quality compost.

"Guam is still facing challenges in agricultural sustainability and environmental concerns," Galsim said. "I believe this program provides awareness and a great opportunity for students to share what they have learned with their communities and make a difference."

Dr. Mohammad Golabi, professor of soil science at the

Western Pacific Tropical Research Center, presented his real-time irrigation system project showing how to optimize irrigation scheduling for vegetable production across diverse climatic zones in the Pacific.

"The main objective is to improve water use efficiency for selected vegetable crops in these islands," Golabi said. "By also implementing an outreach program targeting farmers and other agriculture professionals, it can enhance awareness in adopting an irrigation management strategy that conserves water resources while enhancing crop productivity."

The students said the demonstrations provided valuable knowledge for their islands.

UOG undergraduate student Leroy Kaminaga said, "The smart irrigation could help farmers save tons of water. This was one of the many different techniques that demonstrated how to be eco-friendly and at the same time integrate new technologies in agriculture on tropical islands."

According to Inny Mareko, a student from American Samoa Community College, Guam and American Samoa share similar agricultural practices and challenges.



From left, Daryll Keller and Leroy Kaminaga, students at the University of Guam; Dr. Mohammad Golabi, professor of soil science at UOG's Western Pacific Tropical Research Center; Dr. Adrian Ares, interim associate director of the WPTRC; Christine Tominiko, a student from American Samoa Community College; Dr. Hauhouot Diambra-Odi, associate professor of animal science with UOG's Cooperative Extension & Outreach unit; Inny Mareko, a student from American Samoa Community College; Florentino Bondoc, a student at UOG; and Daryl Richards, a student from the University of the Virgin Islands.

UNIVERSITY OF GUAM

"The time spent learning this new information has been amazing, and I would like to do it again in another country or island to expand my knowledge in the field of agriculture," Mareko said. "I highly recommend this program to all students interested in agricultural science in an insular territory."

Christine Tominiko, also from American Samoa Community College, said, "I got to experience a new environment and meet people of various backgrounds and ethnicities. Guam was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for a student like me, and I am so glad that I was able to take part in this program."

Florentino Bondoc, an undergraduate student at UOG, said, "Being a UOG student gives me a great pleasure in joining students from American Samoa and U.S. Virgin Islands. The program enhanced my awareness in every aspect of agriculture, including plants, animals, marine life, and the environment."

The partner institutions in the CariPac Consortium benefit from each other's knowledge and experience through virtual classroom capabilities, faculty development trainings, and community outreach programs.

Hosting the program again next year is dependent upon funding, Diambra-Odi said.

Students interested in participating next year should stay tuned to announcements from the College of Natural & Applied Sciences and can also contact Dr. Mari Marutani, professor of horticulture at UOG's Western Pacific Tropical Research Center, at 735-2131 or marutanim@triton.uog.edu.

CariPac was established in 2005 to bring needed funds into agricultural and food science programs. The consortium includes institutions in Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, American Samoa, the Northern Mariana Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, the Marshall Islands, Palau, and Guam. (UOG)

MVA website offers membership registration, payment

For the first time, new and returning members of the Marianas Visitors Authority can register and make payment online.

The MVA is renewing existing members for the new fiscal year beginning Oct. 1, 2018, and inviting new businesses and individuals to join the state tourism agency. Accounts can be registered and paid at the MVA's new English website at www.mymarianas.com.

marianas.com.

MVA membership is \$100 per year. Benefits of membership include: business listing on the MVA's language-specific websites in Japan, Korea, China, Russia, Taiwan, and English; opportunities for business brochure distribution at MVA offices in the Marianas and internationally; opportunities to participate in travel and trade shows, sales seminars, and familiarization

tours; detailed visitor data through monthly statistics reports; nomination and voting rights for the MVA board of directors; the opportunity to be a supplier or contractor for the MVA; and the opportunity to serve on ad hoc committees.

"The Marianas Visitors Authority currently has 313 members, the largest membership in the MVA's 42-year history. This gives a sense of how much the tourism indus-

try has recovered over that period and how much our tourism partners have contributed to the success of the work of the MVA," said MVA managing director Christopher A. Concepcion. "Whether it be cooperation in marketing,

signature events, destination enhancement, or any of the many other projects we undertake, we value and thank our members for being a part of creating a successful tourism economy. We welcome all interested partners."

For more information, visit www.mymarianas.com or contact Community Projects coordinator Demalynn Pagarao at the MVA Membership Division at 1 (670) 664-3210 or at dpagarao@mymarianas.com. (MVA)



COMMUNITY BRIEFS

FOA casting call

To all members and friends of The Friends of the Arts, you are invited to audition for the upcoming November presentation of *Peter Pan* or *the Boy Who Would Not Grow Up*. Auditions will be held by director Katie Hoyt and assistant director Neil Fama at the Marianas High School's Dolphin Theater on Friday, Aug. 31, from 4pm to 6pm and on Saturday, Sept. 1, from 1pm to 3pm. All ages are needed. Hoyt can be reached at 287-6028 for more information. (PR)

BECQ cleanup set

The Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality Cleanup Brigade will be deviating from its first Saturday of the month in order to coincide with the 2018 International Coastal Cleanup scheduled for Sept. 15, 2018. If you would like to volunteer, access the forms from: <https://goo.gl/forms/3pPLJbmgtHgcTfUQ2>. Select a site, register and you will be contacted. For more information about volunteering, contact Mallory Muna or Colleen Flores at the BECQ office at 664-8500/1. (BECQ)

Public invited to join community choir

All members and friends of The Friends of the Arts are invited to join the Saipan Community Choir. No audition required. Adults and students are welcome. A FOA holiday concert is scheduled for December and other events will occur before and after.

The choir will practice every Thursday from 6:30pm to 8:30pm at the Saipan Southern High School Band Room. If you couldn't make the start date, no problem. Just come and join in.

The choir will be directed by Katie Hoyt, FOA board secretary, who received her BA in Music from Dixie State University where she studied voice, sang in and accompanied the choirs, and was a rehearsal pianist for the school's performance of *The Gondoliers* by Gilbert and Sullivan. Hoyt was also the musical director for the recent FOA production of *Into*

the Woods. (PR)

Free mental health first-aid training

The Council on Developmental Disabilities and Office of Vocational Rehabilitation, in collaboration with the Systems of Care Program, are offering the Mental Health First Aid Training for Employers on Sept. 6, from 7:30am to 4:30pm, at the Pacific Islands Club.

Employers are encouraged to take part in this training. According to mentalhealthfirstaid.org, "mental health first aid teaches you how to identify, understand, and respond to signs of mental illnesses and substance use disorders in your community."

Training will start promptly at 7:30am.

Participants must be present for the entire duration of the training, which is eight hours, ending at 4:30pm.

Seating is limited, so register as soon as possible.

If you are interested in attending this training as you believe it will benefit your department, agency, organization, business, or company, contact Arlene Kay Miyagata, director, Office of Vocational Rehabilitation at (670) 322-6537/8; TTY: (670) 322-6449; fax: (670) 322-6548; or email ayamagata@ovrgov.net; nmi-dir@ovrgov.net. (PR)

Reminder to all CNMI employers

All employers in the Commonwealth are being reminded of the deadline to report a list of your current employees to the Office of the Attorney General.

The Office of the Attorney General gave notice yesterday about the establishment of the state directory of new hires and the 90-day deadline for the Child Support Enforcement Office is fast approaching. That deadline is Sept. 12, 2018.

As a reminder, all employers must report within 20 days to the Office of the Attorney General, Child Support Enforcement Office, whenever an employer hires or re-hires an employee, regardless of whether or not said employee

has a child support case.

In addition, employers are required to report monthly, no later than the 10th day of each month, when an employee resigns, terminates, or no longer works for an employer.

For more information on what needs to be reported and methods of reporting, visit our website at www.cnmioag.org or call 237-7500. (OAG)

Free health outreach

The Good Hands Ministry will be holding a free health checkup on Sept. 2, 2018, Sunday, from 2pm to 6pm, at the Garapan Basketball Court. There will be blood sugar check, blood pressure check, body massage, facial cleansing, free haircut, free reading eyeglass (first 50 people), and free giveaways (bag of toiletries for the first 100 people). There will be snacks and refreshments. (PR)

SHRM CEO to headline NMI chapter meeting

Johnny C. Taylor Jr., president and chief executive officer of the Society for Human Resource Management, will be the keynote speaker of the CNMI SHRM general membership meeting this September.

Taylor will discuss partnering one's workforce, corporate and government leaders to address unique HR challenges. He will discuss the value of creating and building partnerships with workforce, corporate and government leaders to address the unique challenges we face in the future of HR.

This meeting will be held at PIC's Charley's Cabaret on Wednesday, Sept. 5, 2018, beginning at 12pm. It is open to the public and will provide information for employers, managers, and HR professionals and staff. The presentation includes the PIC lunch buffet at a cost of \$20 for SHRM members and \$30 for non-members.

Seats are limited, so reserve your seat by contacting Penny Jones by e-mail at penelope.jones@hyatt.com or Denise Montenegro at denise.montenegro@hyatt.com or by telephone at 323-5867/68. (SHRM)

Guam Guard to commission new officer

The Guam National Guard will commission another new officer during a ceremony today, Aug. 30, beginning at 3pm in building 350 at the Guard's Readiness Center in Barrigada.

Officer candidate Laurence Mariano joined the Guam Army National Guard in 2007 as a financial services technician assigned to the Guam National Guard Element.

In 2009, he was selected to perform active duty operational support at the National Guard Bureau Financial Services Center in Indianapolis, Indiana. He was later selected for an active guard reserve tour at the National Guard Bureau headquarters in Arlington, Virginia. In October 2017, Mariano returned to Guam to pursue an opportunity to attend Officer Candidate School. He graduated from



Photos show officer candidate Laurence Mariano after completing validation of Officer Candidate School, Phase 0, in Guam, in May; and immediately after graduating from OCS in Rapid City, South Dakota, in July.

GUAM NATIONAL GUARD

OCS on July 27 at Rapid City, South Dakota.

Mariano will be commissioned a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army during a ceremony today, Aug. 30, at the

Guard's Readiness Center in Barrigada. Mariano will be branched infantry and assigned to Delta Company, 1st-294th Infantry Regiment as a platoon leader. (PR)



NEW WATER TANK

U.S. District Court for the NMI designated Judge David O. Carter delivers a message during Monday's ribbon-cutting for the newly completed As Terlaje water tank.

FERDIE DE LA TORRE

\$3M funds new USVI Office of Disaster Recovery

WASHINGTON—Three million dollars in supplemental funding for the U.S. Virgin Islands has been approved to create and fund an Office of Disaster Recovery in support of a priority request from the territory.

"The Virgin Islands government needs emergency financial management assistance related to the consequences of the two Category 5 hurricanes, Irma and Maria, that hit the territory in 2017," said Doug Domenech, U.S. Department of the Interior Assistant Secretary for Insular and International Affairs. "Secretary Ryan Zinke and I are

pleased that the U.S. Congress has provided this assistance to help ensure that funding provided to address hurricane impacts is spent correctly and efficiently for the benefit of those who are impacted."

The Virgin Islands Office of Disaster Recovery in the USVI Department of Finance will provide critical financial management coordination across each agency and organization receiving disaster recovery funds. The territory will be receiving several billions of dollars in disaster assistance funding as a result of impacts and damage caused

in 2017. The Office of Disaster Recovery will monitor expenditures of all federal disaster assistance programs, and transmit collected data through an electronic system and publication on a website to be updated monthly for transparency and awareness. The budget includes costs for personnel, contractors, equipment, software, website maintenance, and overhead costs for approximately the next two years. The USVI government and the Federal Emergency Management Agency will provide a combined in-kind match of \$818,289. (DOI)

Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

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What John McCain didn't do

By **PATRICIA MURPHY**
CQ-ROLL CALL

When we all look back at the life of Sen. John McCain, it's easy to focus on all that he did—the sacrifice and victories, the wounds of war and the joy in service. But for me, it was something that McCain chose not to do years ago that I'll always be grateful for.

It was 2002 and my boss, Georgia Sen. Max Cleland, was in a re-election fight so ugly, many of us on his staff frankly didn't know how to respond. Would voters really believe that Cleland, a triple amputee from the Vietnam War, was so blindly partisan that he would work against America's national security and for the Democratic Party instead? That was the accusation against him in the campaign.

Cleland had been lifelong Democrat, but routinely partnered with Republicans in Washington, either senators on the Armed Services Committee to fight for men and women in the military, or with House members in the Georgia delegation, to deliver for the state's needs back home. Especially in the months after 9/11, politics in Washington seemed to fade into the background as members of Congress worked together, urgently and regardless of party, to do whatever they needed to do to protect the country from the attacks that might come next.

It was probably naive at the time to think that the Republicans who had worked so much with Cleland in Washington would not then campaign against him when the next election came around, but that's exactly what happened. The race tightened and then turned. It was politics, after all, and the goal of politics was to win. Always.

Notable holdout Except when it came to Sen. John McCain. Unlike other Republicans, he told Cleland he would not campaign against him and he didn't. Along with fellow Republican Sen. Chuck Hagel (another Vietnam combat veteran), McCain also denounced an attack ad that put photos of Cleland alongside Osama bin Laden and Saddam Hussein and accused the senator of lying and failing to protect the country at a time of war. While others were silent, McCain spoke out against it. "I've never seen anything like that ad," he told The Washington Post. "It's worse than disgraceful, it's reprehensible."

McCain's statement didn't make a major difference in the race. Cleland still lost. But it made a difference to those of us who needed to believe that some things were more important than politics and that there were leaders in Washington who believed that, too. McCain, Cleland and Hagel were three of the six Vietnam veterans in the Senate at the time. They all knew the costs of war and the incredible gifts of the country they fought—and could have died—for. For them, every day, nothing was more important than country.

Two years later, McCain did something similar for Sen. John Kerry who had clinched the Democratic nomination for president when a group of veterans cut an ad attacking his actions during Vietnam. McCain called that ad "dishonest and dishonorable" and said the White House should condemn it. That same year, McCain told Fox News, "John Kerry is a friend of mine. I don't choose to attack or disparage him and I will not." He went on: "I know that having a friend in Washington from another party is not acceptable to some in

See **MCCAIN** on next page



Trump is obsessed with loyalty but surrounds himself with traitors

The irony of Donald Trump's presidency is that he is obsessed with loyalty. Yet he surrounds himself with traitors.

He is most comfortable with people just like himself. They are people who pretend to be someone they're not—honest and trustworthy. They act as though they are sitting on top of the world when, in fact, they are standing in quicksand.

The problem is that Trump's closest allies are likely to be liars, cheats, spongers and backstabbers who would sell their soul for a nickel and then shove him under the bus to grab a few extra pennies.

They buy \$15,000 ostrich-skin jackets when they are \$17 million in debt. They do Trump's shifty legal work for years, and then create a GoFundMe page so the public can pay for their defense.

His former personal lawyer Michael Cohen; the Trump Organization's chief financial officer, Allen Weisselberg; and Trump's close friend, National Enquirer publisher David Pecker, clearly are among the president's most despised group of defectors.

Cohen, who once said he would "do anything to protect Mr. Trump," implicated the president last week when pleading guilty to breaking campaign finance laws. He told federal prosecutors in New York that then-candidate Trump had directed him to make payments to silence two women who claimed to have had affairs with Trump.

Prosecutors offered Weisselberg and Pecker immunity from prosecution for their cooperation. And they jumped at the opportunity. If he had his way, Trump would send them all to prison for flipping.

These are the guys Trump trusted with all of his skeletons. For some reason, he thought they were loyal enough to lock the closet door and swallow the key if anyone ever tried to make them divulge their secrets.

But the moment federal prosecutors approached them, they reached into their designer shirt pockets and tossed over the key. They could release a trove of information about Trump's financial dealings that might finally do him in.

But Trump has an uncanny way of wiggling out of sticky situations. So we'll just have to wait and see.

Trump has another set of traitors too. These are folks he surrounded himself with in Washington because he thought they would have his back no matter how many crazy things he did at the White House.

Attorney General Jeff Sessions, former FBI Director James Comey, former FBI Deputy Director Andrew McCabe, former Secretary of State Rex Tillerson and ex-national security adviser H.R. McMaster certainly will go down in Trump's book of betrayers.

By **DAHLEEN GLANTON**
Chicago Tribune



Turns out, he had sorely misjudged some of them. They weren't crooked at all.

Then there's Omarosa Manigault Newman, his fired African-American adviser, who falls in a category all to her own. In many ways, he taught her how to be ruthless like him, and she turned around and nearly beat him at his own game.

Sessions isn't someone many of us empathize with, either. His policies regarding immigrants, specifically separating children from their parents, have been atrocious.

He's been hanging on to his job by a string since nearly the beginning. But in the meantime, he's been busy making changes that that could set African-Americans and other minorities back for decades.

If Trump's passion for loyalty wasn't already obvious enough, he made it clear last week when he confirmed to "Fox & Friends" that he put Sessions in the job so that he could take over the Justice Department.

"The only reason I gave him the job, because I felt loyalty," Trump said of Sessions.

And what did Sessions do in return? He recused himself from the Russia probe, leaving Trump exposed to special counsel Robert Mueller's probing eyes.

That's proof that Trump isn't a good judge of character. Maybe he could use a little advice to help him choose better cohorts.

The first thing is to never expect your friends to choose you over their spouse and children. Nobody in their right mind would elect to go to prison in order to keep a self-serving egomaniac from being exposed.

Well, perhaps no one except Trump's former campaign chairman Paul Manafort. But then, he's the one who owns that ostrich-skin jacket. That says a lot about him.

The second thing to remember is that anyone who would agree to work for someone who can't be trusted also is someone who can't be trusted. Chances are they are going to secretly record every conversation so they can stab you in the back before you

See **TRUMP** on next page

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

‘We need a better deal’

Editor’s Note: The following is the text of a statement that the author submitted during yesterday’s meeting of the CNMI Lottery Commission. The statement was addressed to commission chair Mark Rabauliman and commission members.

Today you are considering whether to approve a sixth amendment to the exclusive casino license agreement between Imperial Pacific International and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. Before you approve any amendment favorable to the developer, I appeal to you to negotiate a better deal for the people of the Marianas. At a minimum, I plead that you provide the citizens of the Commonwealth a genuine opportunity to understand the content of the proposed amendments and set forth their opinions.

IPI is currently seeking approval to operate other hotels, namely the Mariana Resort in Marpi, at less than a “five-star” standard, and to begin operations at facilities in phases. IPI is also seeking another extension. They are currently required to complete construction of the initial gaming facility by Aug. 31, 2018. For the sixth time, IPI will not be able to meet its deadline. As before, there are many reasons for the delay. As before, there is no practical way for IPI to meet their obligations in a safe and timely manner. They need this extension, again.

The Lottery Commission, and the people of the Marianas whom you represent, have been more than patient and accommodating. To my knowledge, no request for an extension or other amendment beneficial to IPI in the license agreement has ever been denied. Liquidated damages have never been de-

manded for breach of contract. The casino license has never been suspended or revoked.

This total deference to IPI comes despite the multiple, serious problems associated with this development, including at least one confirmed worker fatality and dozens of documented workplace injuries; the illegal employment of tourists as workers; millions of dollars in unpaid wage claims by multiple contractors (with another instance surfacing this past week); allegations of wage discrimination; the recent layoffs of hundreds of U.S. workers; failures to timely pay taxes and contributions to the community chest fund; failures to timely pay vendors and contractors; violations of environmental protection standards; and allegations of money laundering and public corruption.

Given this history, and growing public concern about the viability and integrity of this development, it is only reasonable that the Lottery Commission consider imposing conditions in the casino license agreement to strengthen protections for workers, the environment, and the interests of the people of the Marianas.

Such conditions would also be consistent with the recommendations of the Development Plan Advisory Committee, which in the Aug. 11, 2018, report to the governor, called for the Commonwealth and IPI to negotiate terms that would lead to a higher probability of project success. One of DPAC’s suggestions included “[i]mproved management controls to ensure continual emphasis in safety, local hiring, compliance with federal regulations, according fair opportunities for local businesses and protection of the environment as envisaged by CLA [casino license agreement] to avoid termination and disruption risks.”

I am willing to support an extension, but not without conditions that are beneficial to the people of the Marianas. As a starting point, I urge you, the members of the Lottery Commission, to consider requiring:

- U.S. Treasury-listed payment and performance bonds to protect the Commonwealth’s interest in ensuring the completion of the project;
- Engagement of an independent monitoring program, at IPI’s expense, to ensure the compliance of IPI, its contractors and subcontractors, with all federal and Commonwealth labor, workplace safety, environmental, and human rights standards, subject to penalties;
- Stronger protections for U.S. workers, including protections against wage discrimination and compensation or new job opportunities for those U.S. workers who were recently replaced by foreign workers;
- Disclosure and online publication of IPI’s plan to meet U.S. resident employment objectives set forth in the casino license agreement, and periodic progress reports;
- More accountability for the community chest fund, including independent review and decision-making on grant applications, periodic audits of the fund, and online publication of payments into the fund, grant announcements, grant awards, and audit reports;

MCCAIN

From Page 10

Washington. I have two words for them: too bad.”

I left Capitol Hill after the Cleland race. But thanks to McCain, I didn’t lose my faith in politics or the dignity of public service or the honor in the United States Senate. Today, it’s not only difficult to imagine the Senate without John McCain, I don’t particularly want to try.

Watch: Lawmakers Remember McCain as ‘Patriot,’ ‘Friend’

Keeping the faith I’d rather believe that the Senate is still a place where someone believes that some things are more important than politics and that nothing is more important than country. I’d also like to believe that the Senate can stand up for itself when necessary and will stand up for the American people when required. I want to believe that America is still a country that rewards a person who chooses service over self, instead of the other way around.

With John McCain in the Senate, I knew all of that was true. Without him, the others who fit the bill—and I know they are there—are going to have to raise their hands and make themselves known to the rest of the country. We need to have faith in our leaders as so many had faith in John McCain.

I don’t mean to lionize the senator and there’s no need to. Like all of us, he had plenty of faults. But unlike most, he pointed out his own shortcomings often. And he distinguished himself in today’s politics by stepping away from partisanship when he

By CHRISTINA MARIE SABLAN

Special to the Saipan Tribune



■ Disclosure and online publication of reports related to IPI’s compliance with environmental permitting and other regulatory standards, including notices of violation, plans of corrective action, and progress in implementation;

■ Disclosure and online publication of all reports of the Development Plan Advisory Committee and all of IPI’s reports to DPAC and the Commonwealth Casino Commission, including reports on financial status and payment of tax obligations.

IPI is the single biggest developer in the Commonwealth, and the exclusive holder of Saipan’s casino license. The people of the Marianas have a stake in ensuring the completion of this project and the viability of this development. We also have a stake in ensuring that workers and the environment are protected, vendors and contractors are paid, laws are followed, and the terms of the license agreement are favorable to the Commonwealth, and fulfilled. We did not sign up for a profitable casino at “any cost.”

For this partnership between IPI and the people of the Marianas to succeed, greater transparency is essential. Trust is impossible otherwise. People need more information to evaluate the progress of this project and also the wisdom of their government representatives in the decisions that are made on their behalf. IPI should not be allowed to operate in the dark.

Which brings me to this final point: it is widely believed that the approval of this sixth amendment is already a done deal, and that today’s meeting is largely a formality. Even the draft amendment, like every amendment before it, *presumes* “the community’s understanding and support.” But what steps have been taken to gauge what the public really wants? This latest amendment mentions a public meeting on Aug. 2 to discuss the details of the proposal—a meeting that was actually cancelled and postponed until today, according to the government officials I spoke to, largely because the amendment request package was not ready. Those documents were not widely available to the public before today—and here we are, two days before the Aug. 31 deadline, rushing to make a decision.

IPI needs this amendment. But the people of the Marianas need a better deal—especially in light of the history of this project, and all the broken promises. You, the members of this Lottery Commission, are entrusted to look out for the interests of our people and to impose common-sense conditions that benefit the Commonwealth. Please, do so.

needed to make room for a path to do what he thought was right.

In his final farewell message Monday, McCain called on Americans to do the same. “We have always had so much more in common with each other than in disagreement,” he wrote. “If only we remember that and give each other the benefit of the presumption that we all love our country we will get through these challenging times.”

McCain embodied that message in all that he did—and didn’t do—in his own life. It’s fitting that his final act of service is to pass it along to the country he loved so much, even in his death.

Roll Call columnist Patricia Murphy covers national politics for The Daily Beast. Previously, she was the Capitol Hill bureau chief for Politics Daily and founder and editor of Citizen Jane Politics. Follow her on Twitter @1PatriciaMurphy.

TRUMP

From Page 10

stick the knife into theirs.

The most important thing is this: What goes around comes around. If you spend your entire life treating everyone like dirt, don’t expect your pool of cohorts to be the cream of the crop.

If you are someone who cannot be trusted to tell the truth, there’s an excellent chance your friends, indeed, will be people exactly like you—traitors, misfits and liars.

LITERARY NOOK**By JOEY ‘PEPE BATBON’ CONNOLLY**

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Joey “Pepe Batbon” Connolly is a retired teacher and poet living on Tinian who taught English in CNMI public schools for the past 30 years. He has also taught in Alaska, New Orleans, and Las Vegas.

**Omarosa Tape Tautening Tyranny**






Omarosa Manigault Newman made some tapes the veracity of which the White House rejects a sly insider Trump trained fox who got the grapes Brennan security clearance a bright shiny object 45 dehumanizes her and others calling them a dog Nazis did the same with Jews before World War II 45 uses these insults in speeches, tweets and blog denigrating imagined enemies political rivals too Omarosa probably sells more books in this manner 45 distracts focusing on the intelligence community as Omarosa puts more TV interviews on her planner 45 keeps insulting federal civil servants with impunity no dogs let out from the WH, there are none there but 45 needs a puppy or at least a little teddy bear.

45 Flips! on Self in Narcissistic Mirror

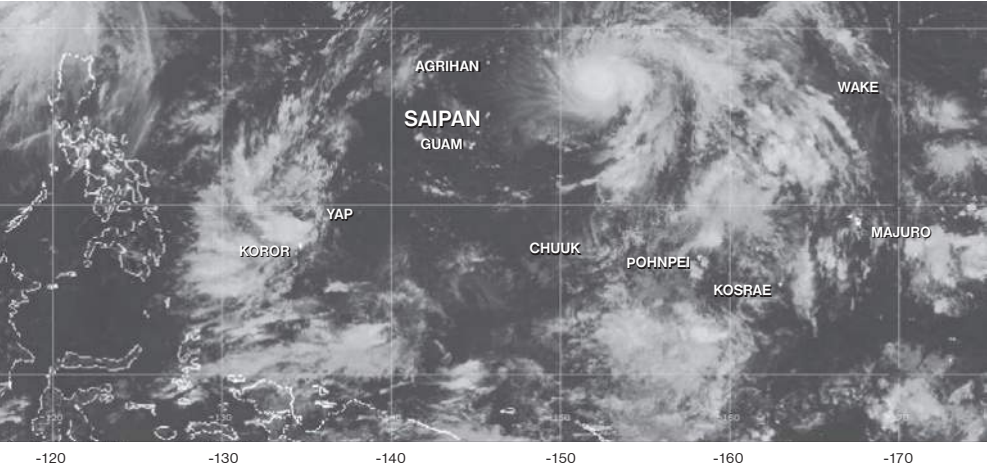
45 sees himself in his private narcissistic news mirror as news outlets talk about who is indicted who is flipping revealing facts about someone they worked with and know on radio, twitter, TV news all reporting, quoting, quipping. The common sentiment of most is that 45 has got to go let us do a bit of flipping Trump insults on our own prevaricating political pancakes irrational tantrum smirks communications to and from both sides by smart phone. Lets devise a way of taking a look at how this thing works let us flip some of 45’s insults and disparaging remarks back on him, negative things he has said about the press see how he likes it when he’s the ‘disgusting’ dog that barks. Don’t you think 45 could also be called all the following: “enemy of the people” “fake news” “disgusting” “lies deceit, viciousness” “failing failing badly” “extremely dishonest” “lying disgusting people” “failing grade”?

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
				
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. West wind around 10 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Southwest winds 10 to 20 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲ 89° ▼ 77°	▲ 89° ▼ 77°	▲ 89° ▼ 77°	▲ 88° ▼ 78°	▲ 88° ▼ 78°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 1:36 PM, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 29, 2018

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Little change made to the forecast. The biggest item to contend with in the forecast is Tropical Storm Jebi. It is forecast to move across the northern CNMI Thursday night and Friday morning. Most of the heavy weather associated with Jebi will remain north of Saipan. A monsoon trough stretches from Jebi passing south of Guam and continues to a circulation near Yap. As Jebi moves closer to the northern CNMI it will help drag the monsoon trough north of Saipan by Thursday. Light east winds today will give way to variable winds later this afternoon and tonight becoming west by Thursday as the trough moves north. Light winds combined with afternoon heating will equal a chance of afternoon thunderstorms over Guam. Current model trends show that the activity south of Jebi and associated with the monsoon trough will not be like the last tropical system. The last system caused an increase in winds and help produce a lot of rain across the local area. At this time expect the heavy rain and winds to remain over the northern CNMI and only a slight increase in the local area weather with isolated showers and thunderstorms Friday through Saturday night. Winds will become slightly elevated Friday at 10 to 20 mph.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA			▲ ▼ °F
Guam and Rota	Thunderstorm	85° / 78°	
Palau	Thunderstorm	83° / 77°	
Yap	Thunderstorm	85° / 79°	
Chuuk	Thunderstorm	85° / 79°	
Pohnpei	Thunderstorm	86° / 76°	
Kosrae	Thunderstorm	86° / 76°	
Majuro	Thunderstorm	86° / 80°	

AROUND THE GLOBE			▲ ▼ °F
Auckland	Partly Cloudy	61° / 48°	
Beijing	Sunny	82° / 70°	
Hong Kong	Thunderstorm	88° / 81°	
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	86° / 75°	
London	Partly Cloudy	70° / 54°	
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	83° / 66°	
Manila	Partly Cloudy	90° / 77°	
Melbourne	Showers	55° / 48°	
Miami	Thunderstorm	88° / 81°	
New York	Partly Cloudy	91° / 79°	
Osaka	Thunderstorm	90° / 79°	
Paris	Thunderstorm	72° / 55°	
Busan	Thunderstorm	84° / 79°	
Rome	Sunny	88° / 64°	
Salem	Thunderstorm	88° / 71°	
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	64° / 57°	
Seoul	Thunderstorm	82° / 68°	
Tokyo	Partly Cloudy	91° / 77°	
Washington, DC	Thunderstorm	93° / 73°	



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY			FEET
4:09 AM	LOW TIDE	0.63	
9:42 AM	HIGH TIDE	1.77	
4:12 PM	LOW TIDE	0.35	
10:20 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.86	

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:04 AM	6:30 PM
Friday	6:04 AM	6:30 PM
Saturday	6:04 AM	6:29 PM
Sunday	6:04 AM	6:28 PM
Monday	6:04 AM	6:28 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	-	8:51 AM	9:08 PM
Friday	-	9:42 AM	9:49 PM
Saturday	-	10:34 AM	10:33 PM
Sunday	-	11:28 AM	11:20 PM
Monday	-	12:25 PM	-

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JUNE 6, 2018

DEPARTURES			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)			

UA117 8:45am 9:30am Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)			
7C3451	3:10am	6:10am	1, 7
7C3451	4:00am	7:05am	4, 5

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)			
TW308	2:00am	6:05am	Daily
OZ626	2:10am	6:00am	1
OZ626	2:50am	6:40am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
LJ652	3:40am	7:30am	1, 4, 5, 7
7C3403	4:45am	8:30am	Daily
7C3401	4:00pm	7:45pm	Daily

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)			
3U8648	5:40am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-HANGZHOU (HGH)			
JD396	7:30am	12:00pm	1
JD396	4:50pm	10:00pm	4

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)			
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)			
MU764	1:30am	6:35am	3, 5, 7

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)			
OZ626/701	2:10am	10:55am	1 via ICN
OZ626/701	2:50am	10:55am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA6394/191	4:15am	9:00am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	8:10am	7 via GUM
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	9:20am	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via GUM
UA6398/183	6:05pm	9:40pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA6398/183	6:05pm	9:50pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA6398/193	6:05pm	11:50pm	2, 5 via GUM-ROR

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)			
HX077	1:50am	5:15am	1, 4
OZ626/721	2:10am	11:50am	1 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
U043	5:45am	8:40am	1, 3, 5, 7
UA6398/159	6:05pm	11:00pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U Sichuan Airlines, 7C Jeju Air, DL Delta Airlines, JD Beijing Capital, UO HK Express, HX HongKong Airlines, LJ Jin Air, MU China Eastern, OZ Asiana Airlines, TW t'way Air, UA United Airlines, PR PAL Express; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

SAIPAN TO ROTA			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1301	7:30AM	8:00AM	Daily
1302	11:30AM	12:00PM	Daily
1303	4:00PM	4:30PM	Daily

ROTA TO SAIPAN			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3101	8:15AM	8:45AM	Daily
3102	1:45PM	2:15PM	Daily
3103	4:45PM	5:15PM	Daily

ROTA TO GUAM			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3401	12:15PM	12:45PM	Daily

GUAM TO ROTA			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
4301	1:00PM	1:30PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO TINIAN			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1201	7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
1202	8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily
1203	9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily

ARRIVALS			
GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			

UA117 7:00am 7:45am Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
7C3452	9:00pm	2:10am+1	4
7C3452	9:05pm	2:10am+1	3, 6, 7

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
7C3402	9:30am	3:00pm	Daily
OZ625	7:40pm	1:00am+1	7
TW307	7:45pm	1:00am+1	Daily
OZ625	8:20pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
LJ651	9:10pm	2:40am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
3U8647	10:20pm	4:30am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

HANGZHOU (HGH)-SAIPAN			
JD395	8:25am	3:30pm	4
JD395	9:55pm	5:00am+1	7

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN			
MU763	4:25pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
UA182/6395	12:40am	8:05am	3, 6 via GUM
UA190/6397	9:55am	5:35pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ702/625	12:25pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/625	12:25pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR110/UA6395	10:05pm	8:05am+1	Daily via GUM
UA192/6395	10:30pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
UA184/6395	10:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN			
OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
HX076	5:15pm	12:15am+1	3, 7
U042	6:50pm	1:45am+1	7
U042	9:30pm	4:25am+1	2, 4, 6
UA116/6395	11:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM



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Business

Trump accuses Google, tech firms of rigged search results about him

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Donald Trump is accusing Google and other U.S. tech companies of rigging search results about him “so that almost all stories & news is BAD” — and though he is offering no evidence, a top adviser says the White House is “taking a look” at whether Google should face federal regulation.

Google is pushing back sharply, saying Trump’s claim simply wasn’t true: “We never rank search results to manipulate political sentiment.”

The president’s tweets Tuesday echoed his familiar attacks on the news media — and a conservative talking point that California-based tech companies run by CEOs with liberal leanings don’t give equal weight to opposing political viewpoints. They also revealed anew his deep-seated frustration over not getting the credit he believes he deserves.

The president, who has said he runs on little sleep, jumped onto Twitter before dawn Tuesday to rehash his recent complaints about alleged suppression of conservative voices and positive news about him.

He followed that up with vague threats in Oval Of-

fice comments.

“I think Google has really taken advantage of a lot of people, and I think that’s a very serious thing. That’s a very serious charge,” Trump said, adding that Google, Twitter, Facebook and others “better be careful, because you can’t do that to people.”

Trump claimed that “we have literally thousands and thousands of complaints coming in. ... So I think that Google and Twitter and Facebook, they’re really treading on very, very troubled territory and they have to be careful.”

Larry Kudlow, the president’s top economic adviser, told reporters later that the White House is “taking a look” at whether Google searches should be subject to some government regulation. Trump often points proudly to his cutting of government regulations as a spur for economic gains.

In his tweets, Trump said — without offering evidence — that “Google search results for ‘Trump News’ shows only the viewing/reporting of Fake New Media. In other words, they have it RIGGED, for me & others, so that almost all stories & news is BAD. Fake CNN is prominent. Republican/Conservative & Fair Me-

dia is shut out. Illegal?”

He added, again with no evidence, that “96% of results on ‘Trump News’ are from National Left-Wing Media, very dangerous.”

A search query Tuesday morning, several hours after the president tweeted, showed stories from CNN, ABC News, Fox News and the MarketWatch business site, among others. A similar search later in the day for “Trump” had Fox News, the president’s favored cable network, among the top results.

Google, based in Mountain View, California, said its aim is to make sure its search engine users quickly get the most relevant answers.

“Search is not used to set a political agenda and we don’t bias our results toward any political ideology,” the company said in a statement. “Every year, we issue hundreds of improvements to our algorithms to ensure they surface high-quality content in response to users’ queries. We continually work to improve Google Search and we never rank search results to manipulate political sentiment.”

Experts suggested that Trump’s comments showed a misunderstanding of how search engines work.

Talks with Canadian officials expected after US-Mexico deal

WASHINGTON (AP)—Canada’s minister of foreign affairs is scheduled to hold talks in Washington on Tuesday in hopes of reaching a trade agreement with the United States, an urgent response after President Donald Trump announced a deal with Mexico on Monday that left out Canada.

The official, Chrystia Freeland, is facing a tight deadline to keep the three nations that formed the North American Free Trade Agreement 24 years ago together in a trade pact. The deal unveiled Monday by Trump—whose administration set a Friday deadline—raised several key questions:

Can Canada, the United States’ second-largest trading partner, be coaxed or coerced into a new pact?

If not, is it even legal—or politically feasible—for Trump to reach a replacement trade deal with Mexico alone?

And will the changes being negotiated to the 24-year-old NAFTA threaten the operations of American and foreign companies that have built sophisticated supply chains that span the three countries?

“There are still a lot of questions left to be answered,” said Peter MacKay, a former Canadian minister of justice, defense and foreign affairs who is now a partner at the law firm Baker McKenzie.

Trump was quick to proclaim the agreement a triumph, pointing to Monday’s surge in the stock market, which was fueled in part by the apparent breakthrough with Mexico.

“We just signed a trade agreement with Mexico, and it’s a terrific agreement for everybody,” the president declared. “It’s an agreement that a lot of people said couldn’t be done.”

Trump suggested that he might leave Canada out of a new agreement. He said he wanted to call the revamped trade pact “the United States-Mexico Trade Agreement” because, in his view, NAFTA has earned a reputation for being harmful to American workers.

But first, he said, he would give Canada a chance to get back in—“if they’d like to negotiate fairly.” To intensify the pressure on Ottawa to agree to his terms, the president threatened to impose new taxes on

Canadian auto imports.

Talking to reporters, the top White House economic adviser, Larry Kudlow, urged Canada to “come to the table.”

“Let’s make a great deal like we just made with Mexico,” Kudlow said. “If not, the USA may have to take action.”

Canada’s NAFTA negotiator, Foreign Minister Chrystia Freeland, is cutting short a trip to Europe to fly to Washington on Tuesday to try to restart talks.

“We will only sign a new NAFTA that is good for Canada and good for the middle class,” said Adam Austen, a spokesman for Freeland, saying that “Canada’s signature is required.”

MacKay added, “There is still a great deal of uncertainty—trepidation, nervousness, a feeling that we are on the outside looking in.”

Critics denounced the prospect of cutting Canada out of a North American trade pact, in part because of the risks it could pose for companies involved in international trade. Many manufacturers have built vital supply systems that depend on freely crossing all three NAFTA borders.

Nation

Shooting suspect was able to buy guns despite mental illness

BALTIMORE (AP)—The young man who opened fire at a Florida video game tournament had shown abundant signs he was struggling with a mental disorder: He was prescribed an anti-psychotic drug as an adolescent and had been hospitalized at least twice for mental illness.

Yet David Katz landed at the foggy intersection of America’s mental health and legal systems when it came to buying the two handguns that police say he carried during the attack, which killed two people and wounded 10 others during the “Madden NFL 19” competition in Jacksonville. The rampage ended when the 24-year-old Baltimore man fatally shot himself.

Experts say the gunman’s history of mental illness apparently would not have stopped him from buying guns in Maryland, where buyers cannot pass a background check if they were either involuntarily committed for any period of time or voluntarily admitted to a psychiatric facility for at least 30 consecutive days.

Court papers filed in his parent’s bitter divorce do not clearly indicate whether Katz was hospitalized voluntarily or involuntarily, and the two hospitalizations described



A single candle and a few flowers were left on the grass outside the Jacksonville Landing Tuesday, Aug. 28, 2018, as the facility prepared to reopen after Sunday’s mass shooting there Sunday during a Madden Championship Series video game competition at the Good Luck Have Fun video game bar inside Chicago Pizza.

in the documents were both shorter than 30 days.

In addition, Katz’s hospitalizations may have occurred before the Maryland General Assembly revamped the state’s firearms laws following the 2007 mass shooting at Virginia Tech.

“It appears that these disqualifications did not apply to David Katz,” said Daniel Webster, director of the Johns Hopkins Center for Gun Policy and Research.

The Jacksonville shooting is just the latest U.S. case to illustrate the complexities of keeping dangerously unstable people from purchasing guns.

A Maryland legislator said

the attack highlights the need to review laws governing the length of time someone can be voluntarily admitted to a psychiatric facility and still pass a background check for firearms.

“That clearly is an area in need of reform,” said Democratic Sen. Robert Zirkin, who chairs a Senate committee that handles gun laws.

Maryland lawmakers will gather in January for their annual 90-day legislative session in Annapolis, where people are still grieving the loss of five people gunned down at a newspaper office earlier this year. The gunman’s attorneys are considering an insanity defense.

Hurricane’s death toll in Puerto Rico put at nearly 3,000

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (AP)—Puerto Rico’s governor raised the U.S. territory’s official death toll from Hurricane Maria from 64 to 2,975 on Tuesday after an independent study found that the number of people who succumbed in the desperate, sweltering aftermath had been severely undercounted.

The new estimate of nearly 3,000 dead in the six months after Maria devastated the island in September 2017 and knocked out the entire electrical grid was made by researchers with the Milken Institute School of Public Health at George Washington University.

“We never anticipated a scenario of zero communication, zero energy, zero high-way access,” Gov. Ricardo Rossello told reporters. “I think the lesson is to anticipate the worst. ... Yes, I made mistakes. Yes, in hindsight, things could’ve been handled differently.”

He said he is creating a

commission to study the hurricane response, and a registry of people vulnerable to the next hurricane, such as the elderly, the bedridden and kidney dialysis patients.

Rossello acknowledged Puerto Rico remains vulnerable to another major storm. He said the government has improved its communication systems and established a network to distribute food and medicine, but he noted that there are still 60,000 homes without a proper roof and that the power grid is still unstable.

“A lesson from this is that efforts for assistance and recovery need to focus as much as possible on lower-income areas, on people who are older, who are more vulnerable,” said Lynn Goldman, dean of the Milken institute.

Tuesday’s finding is almost twice the government’s previous estimate, included in a recent report to Congress, that there were 1,427 more deaths than normal in the three months after the storm.

The George Washington researchers said the official count from the Sept. 20 hurricane was low in part because doctors were not trained in how to classify deaths after a disaster.

The number of deaths from September 2017 to February 2018 was 22 percent higher than during the same period in previous years, Goldman said.

Donald Berry, a professor of biostatistics at the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center who was not involved in the study, told The Associated Press in an email that he believes the report is more accurate than the one released by Harvard investigators in May that estimated up to 4,600 more deaths than usual occurred.

He said the data sources used by George Washington also are better, “but its accuracy is not as great as they advertise.”

“If the true number of deaths attributable to Maria turns out to be 2,000 then I would not be surprised,” he said.

Asia

Duterte faces new 'crimes vs humanity' complaint

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Relatives of several people slain in the Philippine president's anti-drug campaign asked the International Criminal Court on Tuesday to prosecute him for alleged crimes against humanity, in the second such request for a ruling on thousands of deaths that have occurred during the crackdown.

Lawyer Edre Olalia said a 50-page complaint against President Rodrigo Duterte was sent to an ICC prosecutor by email. Olalia said it accuses Duterte of ordering, inciting or tolerating the drug killings from the start of his presidency in mid-2016 to this month. The Duterte administration said it expects the effort to fail.

A similar complaint against Duterte was filed by a Filipino lawyer before the ICC last year and is currently being examined by a prosecutor. It focuses on killings during an earlier crackdown by Duterte when he was mayor of southern Davao city.

In their complaint Tuesday, the parents, sisters and wife of eight slain drug suspects seek an indictment of Duterte and reparations for the deaths that occurred during police anti-drug raids. The complainants also include a nongovernment group that helps families of victims, and are represented by a legal group, the National

Union of Peoples' Lawyers, led by Olalia.

"It is our hope that with the court taking jurisdiction of herein complaint, it may force President Duterte to re-examine, if not abandon, his distorted notion of mass murder to solve the country's drug and crime problem," the complainants said.

"The intervention of the ICC will save thousands more from slaughter," they said in the complaint, adding that instead of showing remorse Duterte had vowed to "continue his killing rampage" during a state of the nation speech last month in which he stressed the crackdown will press on "as relentless and chilling as on the first day it began."

The international court, which is based in The Hague, receives many such communications about alleged crimes from around the world and prosecutors are not obliged to open preliminary investigations based on them.

The first complaint against Duterte, which was filed by Filipino lawyer Jude Sabio, is currently being examined by ICC Prosecutor Fatou Bensouda. Prior to the filing of Sabio's information, Bensouda said she was "deeply concerned" by reports of killings in the Philippines, adding that

statements by "high officials" in the country "seem to condone such killings."

Duterte, a 73-year-old former government prosecutor, denies condoning extrajudicial killings but has openly threatened drug dealers with death. "Remorselessly and incorrigibly, President Duterte's statements are a command to kill," the complainants said, citing his offer of bounties for drug suspects and law enforcers who profit from drug crimes.

Duterte has moved to withdraw the Philippines from the ICC, but the court has said the move would not affect Bensouda's preliminary examination.

The Philippine Supreme Court opened a hearing Tuesday on a petition contesting Duterte's decision to withdraw from the ICC. Newly appointed Chief Justice Terecisa de Castro, who took over the judiciary's leadership after helping to oust her predecessor, presided over the hearing.

Presidential spokesman Harry Roque said the new effort to bring a case against Duterte to the ICC "doesn't mean anything" because the international tribunal could not acquire jurisdiction over the president unless it is proven that Philippine courts are unable or unwilling to hear such complaints.

Kono declined to give details.

Attacker at Philippine festival shared fruit to conceal bomb

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—A bomber who killed two people and wounded 35 at a town festival in the southern Philippines offered fruit to people in hopes of evading suspicion when he abandoned the bag that also contained the bomb, a Philippine military commander said Wednesday. Wary residents still alerted police when the man hurriedly left the bag under a parked motorcycle near a night market, Brig. Gen. Cirilito Sobejana told The Associated Press by telephone. Troops chased the man when villagers pointed to him but he fled on a motorcycle that had its engine already running in the chaos caused by the explosion Tuesday night in Isulan town in Sultan Kudarat province "The man offered rambutan and other fruits as a diversion, to make it appear the content of his bag was harmless," Sobejana said.

The bomb was made from a water pump, which shattered and blew steel fragments and motorcycle parts toward the night-market crowd, he said.

Amnesty urges Malaysia to quash caning sentence of lesbians

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia (AP)—Amnesty International on Wednesday urged Malaysia to quash a caning sentence for a lesbian couple, calling the punishment cruel and unjust. Two unidentified ethnic Malay women, aged 22 and 32, had pleaded guilty for attempting to have sexual intercourse and were sentenced to six strokes of a cane and fined by a Shariah court earlier this month. The caning in northeast Terengganu state was due Tuesday but reportedly postponed to Sept. 3 due to technical reasons. Court officials couldn't be immediately reached for comment. Amnesty's Malaysian director Gwen Lee welcomed the deferment but said a delay was insufficient.

World

AS VENEZUELANAS FLOODING COUNTRY Brazil to deploy military

SAO PAULO (AP)—Brazilian President Michel Temer announced Tuesday that he'll deploy the military to restore order in a state at the heart of the Venezuelan migrant crisis, as new data showed a surge in killings that meant the state now has the highest homicide rate in the country.

Between January and June, there were 27.7 homicides for every 100,000 people in Roraima, a poor state in northern Brazil on the border with Venezuela, data from the Violence Monitor showed. Rio Grande do Norte, with 27.1 killings per 100,000, had the second-highest rate, followed by Ceara and Acre, both with 26.

In the past three years, Roraima, like many Brazilian states, has been the scene of an intense battle between criminal organizations for territory and influence. During the same period, it has also been the major entry point into Brazil for Venezuelans fleeing political and economic turmoil in their homeland. Both have put pressure on the state's institutions and contributed to a feeling of instability.

"What we see is that there is a clear feeling of the fragility of local institutions to



AP
Venezuelan migrants rest with their belongings after crossing the border to Pacaraima, in Roraima state, Brazil, Monday, Aug. 20, 2018.

deal with the fear of people, who are starting to think the state has no rule of law," said Bruno Paes Manso, a researcher with the Center for Violence Studies at the University of Sao Paulo. The center participated in putting together the Violence Monitor. "This leads people to defend themselves ... you have this perception: people are arriving from every corner, crime dominates, and homicides multiply in these contexts," he said.

Despite the well-known pressure on Roraima, Manso said the spike was surprising. The rate for all of last year was 25.1 per 100,000 - and Roraima wasn't in the top 10. In

2016, it had the third-lowest homicide rate in the country.

Brazil has long been the world leader in overall homicides. The monitor registered more than 26,100 killings in Brazil in the first six months of the year - which could be an indication that the number of killings could fall in 2018 after a particularly bloody 2017. This year's data, however, does not include complete figures from three states.

The data was compiled and analyzed by the G1 news portal, the Brazilian Forum on Public Security and the Center for Violence Studies, and includes murders, deaths during robberies, and assaults that resulted in deaths.

Journalist who helped pen pope bombshell says author wept

ROME (AP)—An Italian journalist who says he helped a former Vatican diplomat pen his bombshell allegation of sex abuse cover-up against Pope Francis says he persuaded the archbishop to go public after the U.S. church was thrown into turmoil by revelations in the Pennsylvania grand jury report.

Marco Tosatti said he helped Archbishop Carlo Maria Vigano write, rewrite and edit his 11-page testimony, saying the two sat side-by-side at a wooden table in Tosatti's living room for three hours on Aug. 22.

Tosatti, a leading Italian critic of Francis, told The Associated Press that Vigano had called him a few weeks ago out of the blue asking to meet, and then proceeded to tell him the information that became the basis of the testimony.

Vigano's document alleges that Francis knew of ex-Cardinal Theodore McCarrick's sexual misconduct starting in 2013, but reha-

bilitated him from sanctions that Pope Benedict XVI had imposed. The claims have shaken Francis' five-year papacy.

Vigano called for Francis to resign over what he said was complicity in covering up McCarrick's crimes. There is ample evidence, however, that the Vatican under Benedict and St. John Paul II also covered up that information, and that any sanctions Benedict imposed were never enforced.

Vigano has kept largely quiet since the bombshell testimony Sunday, and his whereabouts are unknown. As a result, Tosatti's reconstruction provides the only insight into how the document came about.

Tosatti, a longtime correspondent for Italian daily La Stampa but who now writes largely for more conservative blogs and newspapers, said after their initial meeting a few weeks ago, Vigano said he wasn't prepared to go public. They had been acquaintances, not friends, and

Vigano said he needed to settle some personal matters before proceeding.

But Tosatti said he called him after the Pennsylvania grand jury report published Aug. 15 alleged some 300 priests in six Pennsylvania dioceses abused more than 1,000 children over the past 70 years, and that a sequence of bishops had covered it up.

Tosatti said he told Vigano: "I think that if you want to say something, now is the moment, because everything is going upside-down in the United States. He said 'OK.'"

The two then met at Tosatti's Rome apartment. Initially, Tosatti thought Vigano would give him an interview, but then Vigano decided to put his thoughts on paper.

"He had prepared some kind of a draft of a document and he sat here by my side," Tosatti told the AP from behind his desk, pointing to the wooden chair to his right. "I told him that we had to work on it really because it was not in a journalistic style."

ASIAN BRIEFS

Japanese man returns home after release by North Korea

TOKYO (AP)—A Japanese man released by North Korea after being accused of an unspecified crime arrived back in Japan on Tuesday, officials and reports said. Tomoyuki Sugimoto, who was arrested in early August, had been in North Korean custody during an investigation into the alleged crime. The North's official Korean Central News Agency said Sunday that the country decided to be lenient and expel him for humanitarian reasons. Reports said Sugimoto arrived in Tokyo on Tuesday night on a flight from Beijing. A crowd of reporters waiting in the arrival area was unable to see him, apparently because he was escorted out through a different exit. Without mentioning Sugimoto by name, Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Kono confirmed that a Japanese man held by North Korea had been in Beijing on Tuesday and that officials planned to interview him.

Focus

Ungodly espionage: Russian hackers targeted Orthodox clergy

By RAPHAEL SATTER
AP CYBERSECURITY WRITER

LONDON (AP)—The Russian hackers indicted by the U.S. special prosecutor last month have spent years trying to steal the private correspondence of some of the world's most senior Orthodox Christian figures, The Associated Press has found, illustrating the high stakes as Kiev and Moscow wrestle over the religious future of Ukraine.

The targets included top aides to Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew I, who often is described as the first among equals of the world's Eastern Orthodox Christian leaders.

The Istanbul-based patriarch is currently mulling whether to accept a Ukrainian bid to tear that country's church from its association with Russia, a potential split fueled by the armed conflict between Ukrainian military forces and Russia-backed separatists in eastern Ukraine.

The AP's evidence comes from a hit list of 4,700 email addresses supplied last year by Secureworks, a subsidiary of Dell Technologies.

The AP has been mining the data for months, uncovering how a group of Russian hackers widely known as Fancy Bear tried to break into the emails of U.S. Democrats, defense contractors, intelligence workers, international journalists and even American military wives. In July, as part of special counsel Robert Mueller's ongoing investigation into Russian interference in the 2016 U.S. election, a U.S. grand jury identified 12 Russian intelligence agents as being behind the group's hack-and-leak assault against Hillary Clinton's presidential campaign.

The targeting of high-profile religious figures demonstrates the wide net cast by the cyberspies.

Patriarch Bartholomew claims the exclusive right to grant a "Tomos of Autocephaly," or full ecclesiastical independence, sought by the Ukrainians. It would be a momentous step, splitting the world's largest Eastern Orthodox denomination and severely eroding the power and prestige of the Moscow Patriarchate, which has positioned itself as a leading player within the global Orthodox community.

Ukraine is lobbying hard for a religious divorce from Russia and some observers say the issue could be decided as soon as next month.



In this Sunday, April 8, 2018 file photo, a Ukrainian Orthodox priest blesses worshippers as they collect traditional cakes and painted eggs for an Easter celebration at the Kiev-Pechersk Lavra, the Monastery of the Caves, in Kiev, Ukraine. Ukraine is lobbying hard for a religious divorce from Russia and some observers say the issue could be decided as soon as September 2018.

"If something like this will take place on their doorstep, it would be a huge blow to the claims of Moscow's transnational role," said Vasilios Makrides, a specialist in Orthodox Christianity at the University of Erfurt in Germany. "It's something I don't think they will accept."

The Kremlin is scrambling to help Moscow's Patriarch Kirill retain his traditional role as the head of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church and "the more they know, the better it is for them," Makrides said.

The Russian Orthodox Church said it had no information about the hacking and declined comment. Russian officials referred the AP to previous denials by the Kremlin that it has anything to do with Fancy Bear, despite a growing body of evidence to the contrary.

Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko flew to Istanbul in April in an effort to convince the patriarch to agree to a split, which he has described as "a matter of our independence and our national security." Moscow's Patriarch Kirill is flying to Turkey later this week in a last-ditch bid to prevent it.

Hilarion Alfeyev, Kirill's representative abroad, has warned that granting the Tomos could lead to the biggest Christian schism since 1054, when Catholic and Orthodox believers parted ways.

"If such a thing happens, Orthodox unity will be buried," Alfeyev said.

The issue is an extraordinarily sensitive one for the Ecumenical Patriarchate. Reached by phone, spokesman Nikos-Giorgos Papachristou said: "I don't want to be a part of this story."

Other church officials spoke to the AP about the hacking on condition of anonymity, saying they did not have authorization to speak to the media.

Bartholomew, who is 78, does not use email, those church officials told AP. But his aides do, and the Secureworks list spells out several attempts to crack their Gmail accounts.

Among them were several senior church officials called metropolitans, who are roughly equivalent to archbishops in the Catholic tradition. Those include Bartholomew Samaras, a key confidante of the patriarch; Emmanuel Adamakis, an influential hierarch in the church; and Elpidophoros Lambriniadis, who heads a prestigious seminary on the Turkish island of Halki. All are involved in the Tomos issue; none returned recent AP messages seeking comment.

Spy games have long been a part of the Russian Orthodox world.

The Soviet Union slaughtered tens of thousands of priests in the 1930s, but the Communists later took what survived of the church and brought it under the sway of Russia's secret police, the KGB, with clerics conscripted to spy on congregants and emigres.

The nexus between Russia's intelligence and religious establishments survived the 1991 fall of the Soviet Union and the KGB's reorganization into the FSB, according to Moscow-based political analyst Dmitry Oreshkin.

"Our church leaders are connected to the FSB and their epaulettes stick out from under their habits," Oreshkin said. "They provide Vladimir Putin's policy with an ideological foundation."

That might make one target found by the AP seem curious: The Moscow Patriarch's press secretary, Alexander Volkov.

But Orthodox theologian Cyril Hovorun said he wouldn't be surprised to see a Russian group spying on targets close to home, saying, "they're probably checking him out just in case."

Volkov did not return AP emails seeking comment.

Hovorun is unusually qualified to speak on the issue. In 2012 he—like Volkov—was an official within the Moscow Patriarchate. But he resigned after someone leaked emails showing that he secretly supported independence-leaning Ukrainian clergy.

Hovorun has since been targeted by the Russian hackers, according to the data from Secureworks, which uses the name Iron Twilight to refer to the group.

Hovorun said he believes that those who published his emails six years ago weren't

related to Fancy Bear, but he noted that their modus operandi—stealing messages and then publishing them selectively—was the same.

"We've known about this tactic before the hacking of the Democrats," Hovorun said, referring to the email disclosures that rocked America's 2016 presidential campaign. "This is a familiar story for us."

The Russian hackers' religious dragnet also extended to the United States and went beyond Orthodox Christians, taking in Muslims, Jews and Catholics whose activities might conceivably be of interest to the Russian government.

John Jillions, the chancellor of the Orthodox Church in America, provided the AP with a June 19, 2015, phishing email that Secureworks later confirmed was sent to him by Fancy Bear.

Fancy Bear also went after Ummah, an umbrella group for Ukrainian Muslims; the papal nuncio in Kiev; and an account associated with the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church, a Byzantine rite church that accepts the authority of the Vatican, the Secureworks data shows.

Also on the hit list: Yosyp Zisels, who directs Ukraine's Association of Jewish Organizations and Communities and has frequently been quoted defending his country from charges of anti-Semitism. Zisels said he had no knowledge of the attempted hacking.

Vatican officials did not return messages.

Protestants were targeted too, including three prominent Quakers operating in the Moscow area.

Hovorun said Protestants were viewed with particularly intense suspicion by the Kremlin.

"There is an opinion shared by many in the Russian establishment that all those religious groups—like Quakers, evangelicals—they are connected to the American establishment," he said.

Secureworks' data shows hacking attempts on religious targets that took place in 2015 and 2016, but other material obtained by the AP suggests attempts to compromise the Ecumenical Patriarchate are ongoing.

On Oct. 16, 2017, an email purporting to come from Papachristou, who was just being appointed as spokesman, arrived in the inboxes of about a dozen Orthodox figures.

"Dear Hierarchs, Fathers, Brothers and Sisters in Christ!" it began, explaining that Papachristou was stepping into his new role as director of communications. "It's a very big joy for me to serve the Church on this position. Some suggestions on how to build up relations with the public and the press are provided in the file attached."

The file was rigged to install surveillance software on the recipients' computers.

The email's actual sender remains a mystery—independent analyses of the malicious message by Secureworks and its competitor CrowdStrike yielded nothing definitive.

Church officials told the AP they were disturbed by the hacker's command of church jargon and their inside knowledge of Papachristou's appointment.

"The one who made this is someone who knows us," one official said.

Priests and prelates don't make obvious targets for cyberespionage, but the stakes for the Kremlin are high as the decision on Tomos looms.

Granting the Ukrainian church full independence "would be that devastating to Russia," said Daniel Payne, a researcher on the board of the J.M. Dawson Institute of Church-State Studies at Baylor University in Texas.

"Kiev is Jerusalem for the Russian Orthodox people," Payne said. "That's where the sacred relics, monasteries, churches are ... it's sacred to the people, and to Russian identity."

Environment

Could a super snake emerge from Everglades pythons? New DNA study raises possibility

By JENNY STALETOVICH
MIAMI HERALD

What started out as a straightforward genetic study of Florida's invasive python population has turned up a surprising plot twist: a small number of crossbred Burmese and Indian pythons with the potential to become a kind of Everglades super snake.

For the study, published this week in the journal *Ecology and Evolution*, U.S. Geological Survey researchers examined the tail tissue of 400 snakes captured in South Florida, from the Big Cypress Swamp to the Everglades. While the vast majority appeared to be closely related Burmese pythons—imagine a family reunion packed with first and second cousins—3 had genetic markers from Indian pythons, a subspecies that unlike the swamp-loving Burmese snake prefers high, dry ground.

The number is clearly small, but it raises the risk that over time some Everglades snakes could become better suited to a more varied landscape. Scientists call it hybrid vigor.

"If the Indian pythons have a wider range, perhaps these Everglades snakes now have that capability," said lead author and USGS geneticist Margaret Hunter. "It's quite interesting and quite surprising, but we don't know the extent it's in the population."

Because evolution seems to abhor certainty, there's also the possibility the opposite happens through another process, she said, euphemistically referred to as "outbreeding depression."

The study originally intended to look at the genetic make-up of South Florida snakes to better understand how they spread and how to help control them. Pythons started turning up in the 1980s, likely escapees from a South Dade breeding facility or released pets. By 2000, they were declared official residents in Everglades National Park and have since continued to expand north into the state's expansive water conservation areas and west into Big Cypress. In 2016, they were found breeding in the Keys for the first time.

If snakes in different areas had different DNA, that might

tell wildlife managers something about how they've been able to reproduce and spread so quickly.

"We were initially looking for the population structure to get some information to shed some light on the invasion dynamics, or the core areas where the population may be breeding and then sending off migrants," Hunter said.

No surprise, they found low diversity among the snakes that likely are the descendants of the handful of freed snakes, called the founder effect. In small populations, a shrinking gene pool can signal a population headed toward extinction: There is a good Florida example of that. By the 1990s, the number of Florida panthers had dwindled so low that the animals started suffering from the effects of in-breeding, including heart murmurs, reproductive problems and oddly kinked tails. Texas cougars, very close cousins, were imported to add to the gene pool.

But the python population is so large—researchers believe they number in the many thousands based on the steep drop in nearly all small mammals in their range—that low diversity is not impeding the snake's ability to adapt, Hunter said.

"Such a large population allows them to rapidly adapt," she said. "If some animals die out because of climatic issues, there are other animals that may not die out."

But in 13, they found that Indian marker.

"That was unexpected," Hunter said. "I kept looking at the data to make sure what I was seeing was correct."

It's not clear where the species got crossed, she said. In their native ranges, Burmese and Indian pythons have remained mostly distinct either because of the prey they eat or barriers in habitat. But they could breed in the wild. Breeders also frequently cross species to produce more desirable colors and patterns for the pet trade. The snakes may also have hooked up in the Everglades, but Hunter said that seems less likely since the markers she detected, which are only passed down through female snakes, were historical.

Because Hunter and her colleagues focused on genetics, it's not yet clear how climate will play into the snake's evolution. Scientists suspect that a warming planet will allow them to roam further north. An upcoming study looking

at how the snake has adapted should shed some light, she said. In the meantime, the rapid expansion has provided researchers with a rare window into evolution dynamics.

"All species do this," Hunter said. "But we're watching evolutionary progress right in front of us."



An image posted by the South Florida Water Management District depicts the 1,000th Burmese python caught as part of SFWMD's Python Elimination Program.

AP

IN LOVING MEMORY

Alexander Pangelinan Sablan

Known as "The Colonel"
July 8, 1958 - August 24, 2018

In his new life, †Alex joins his:

Father: †Eulogio Torres Sablan

Mother: †Antonia Pangelinan Sablan

Brothers, sisters, and in-laws: †Francisco P. Villanueva, †Delgadina V. Santos and †Nick Santos, †Jack P. Villanueva and †Margarita Villanueva, †Antonio P. Villanueva, †Eulogio "Jun" P. Sablan, †Alicia S. Saha, †William Salas

His memory will live on in the hearts of his:

Wife: Romila E. Sablan

Sons: Alexandro E. Sablan and Lyrics Eulogio E. Sablan

Brothers, sisters, and in-laws:

- Herman S./Rita Sablan and Family
- Rosalia S./William Owens and Family
- Margaret S./Richard Dunn and Family
- Fermina S./Carlton Ihlan and Family
- Eulogio Miguel S./Emilia Sablan and Family
- Eugenio S./Carmela Sablan and Family
- Norbert S./Jean Sablan and Family
- Patricia P. Sablan and Family
- Diana P. Salas and Family
- Ana P. Yutig/Romeo Yutig and Family
- George P. Sablan/Joaquina and Family
- Dawn Sablan and Family
- Emy Ada and Family
- Bishwajit Saha and Family
- Sally Villanueva and Family
- Agnes Villanueva and Family
- Beth Egipto and Family
- Sammy Egipto and Family
- Alex Egipto and Family
- Lani Egipto and Family
- Melecia Egipto and Family
- Carmen Salas and Family

The "Colonel" will also be missed by numerous uncles, aunties, nieces, nephews, godchildren, cousins, and friends.

Daily mass of intention is held at San Antonio Church at 6pm until Friday, August 31. On Saturday, September 1 at 7:30am there will be a Christian service at the Commonwealth Health Center Chapel. At 8am our dear †Alex will be escorted from the CHC Chapel to San Antonio Church for viewing and last respects. Mass of Christian Burial will begin at 11am, and then our beloved †Alex will be laid to rest at Chalan Kanoa Cemetery.

Please join us in loving prayer and remembrance.

Thank you — Si Yu'us Ma'ase — Salamat Po

Mila, Alexandro, Lyrics, and Family

*For we walk
by faith,
not by sight."*

2 Corinthians 5:7

Life & Style

DETROIT (AP)—The regal presence Aretha Franklin exuded in life was captured at her viewing on Tuesday, with the late Queen of Soul in a gold-plated casket dressed completely in red, including high-heeled pumps, proving, as one person put it, that she was a “diva to the end.”

As Franklin’s powerful vocals from classic gospel performances were piped through the Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History in Detroit, the Rock and Roll Hall of Famer looked as if she was preparing for one more performance. She wore earrings, red lipstick and red nail polish, and her hair was cut short. Her dress—with its ornamental elements and sheer netting fabric—was reminiscent of an outfit she would wear onstage and “something she would have selected for herself,” her niece, Sabrina Owens, told The Associated Press.

Mourners poured into the museum to pay their final respects to Franklin, who died Aug. 16 of pancreatic cancer at the age of 76. The two-day viewing was part of a week of commemorations for the legend, who will be laid to rest on Friday.

The Wright Museum is a cultural landmark in Detroit, where Franklin grew up and spent most of her life. Museum board member Kelly Major Green said the goal was to create a dignified and respectful environment akin

to a church, the place where Franklin got her start.

“What we wanted to do is be reflective of the Queen,” Green said. “It’s beautiful. She’s beautiful.”

Green said Franklin’s attire and pose communicated both power and comfort, as she did in life. The shoes, in particular, show “The Queen of Soul is diva to the end,” Green said.

Fans strolled by the casket, some in tears; one woman blew a kiss to Franklin, who was surrounded by massive arrangements of roses of different hues.

Tammy Gibson, 49, of Chicago said she arrived about 5:30 a.m. She came alone but made fast friends with others who sang and reminisced.

Growing up, Gibson said she heard Franklin’s music “playing all the time” by her parents, who “told me to go to bed—it’s an adult party.”

Outside the museum, she said: “I know people are sad, but it’s just celebrating—people dancing and singing her music.” Indeed, a group of women were singing her hit “Freeway of Love.”

Franklin had been a constant in Gibson’s life.

“I saw the gold-plated casket—it dawned on me: She’s gone, but her legacy and her music will live on forever.”

Owens said she began planning for this week’s festivities earlier this year.

“After all she gave to the



AP
Aretha Franklin lies in her casket at Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History during a public visitation in Detroit, Tuesday, Aug. 28, 2018. Franklin died Aug. 16, 2018, of pancreatic cancer at the age of 76.

Fans mourn

Aretha Franklin at gospel-infused public viewing

world, I felt we needed to give her an appropriate send-off that would match her legacy,” she said. “She loved the city of Detroit and the city of Detroit loved her.”

The roses that surround the casket, Owens said, reflected her love for the flower and her propensity to send arrangements “in grand fashion.”

Franklin was dressed in red

symbolic of her membership in the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority. The service organization of predominantly black women planned a private ceremony Tuesday night in the museum in honor of Franklin.

The setting for the viewings could not be more fitting, according to Paula Marie Seniors, an associate professor of Africana studies at Virginia Tech.

“I think it’s incredibly significant—she is being honored almost like a queen at one of the most important black museums in the United States,” said Seniors.

The Queen of Soul, Seniors said, was “a singer of the universe.” Yet she added that Franklin also was “so unapologetically black—she was so proud of being a black woman.”

Owens said the museum has held services for many dignitaries, most famously Rosa Parks: “It was important that Aretha take her place next to them and lie in state there.”

For all the formality, however, Owens said the viewings are intended to be welcoming and accessible for her legions of fans.

“She respected them—she understood that if it were not for them, she wouldn’t be who she is,” she said.

The museum also plans to stage an exhibition honoring Franklin. “Think” is billed as “a tribute to the Queen of Soul,” and is scheduled to run from Sept. 21 to Jan. 21, 2019.

Franklin had strong loyalty to her family and fans to her last days.

Cate Blanchett: Nothing prepared me for Rohingya suffering

UNITED NATIONS (AP)—Oscar-winning actress Cate Blanchett told the U.N. Security Council on Tuesday that nothing prepared her for “the extent and depth of suffering” she saw when she visited camps in Bangladesh for Rohingya Muslim refugees who

fled a violent crackdown by Myanmar’s military.

In her very different role as a goodwill ambassador for the U.N. refugee agency, Blanchett said she heard “gut-wrenching accounts” of torture, rape, people seeing loved ones killed before their eyes,

and children thrown into fire and burned alive.

“I am a mother, and I saw my children in the eyes of every single refugee child I met,” she said. “I saw myself in every parent. How can any mother endure seeing her child thrown into a fire?”

The two-time Academy Award winner said: “Their experiences will never leave me.”

The Rohingya have long been treated as outsiders in Buddhist-majority Myanmar, even though their families have lived in the country for generations. Nearly all have been denied citizenship since 1982, effectively rendering them stateless, and they are also denied freedom of movement and other basic rights.

The latest crisis began with attacks by an underground Rohingya insurgent group on Myanmar security personnel last August in northern Rakhine State.

Myanmar’s military responded with counterinsurgency sweeps and has been accused of widespread rights violations, including rape, murder, torture and the burning of Rohingya homes and villages—leading about 700,000 Rohingya to flee to neighboring Bangladesh.

The Security Council meeting on Tuesday commemorated the first anniversary of the crackdown.



AP
United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees Goodwill Ambassador Cate Blanchett during a Security Council meeting on the situation in the Myanmar, Tuesday, Aug. 28, 2018 at United Nations headquarters.

Harry and Meghan’s wedding outfits to go on public display

LONDON (AP)—The outfits Prince Harry and Meghan Markle wore at their wedding are to go on public display later this year at the ceremony’s venue, Windsor Castle.

Royal fashion fans will be able to get a close look at the bride’s silk Givenchy wedding dress and 16-foot (5-meter) veil, as well as the diamond-and-platinum tiara loaned to Meghan by Queen Elizabeth II.

There will also be a copy of the frock-coat uniform of the Blues and Royals regiment that Harry wore for the May 19 service, which was watched by millions around the world.

The exhibition “A Royal Wedding: The Duke And Duchess Of Sussex” will be at Windsor Castle from Oct. 26 to Jan. 6, and at Holyrood Palace in Edinburgh, Scotland, from June 14 to Oct. 6, 2019.

Billboard calling Trump 'idiot' roils New Jersey town

UNION TOWNSHIP, N.J. (AP)—A billboard referring to Republican President Donald Trump as "Our Leader The Idiot" is making waves in a New Jersey town.

The billboard has been up since last week in Union

Township, a town of roughly 60,000 people about 12 miles (19 kilometers) west of New York City.

Under the title it reads, "a new film—coming soon!"

New York-based activist Neil Harrison told News12

New Jersey that he's paying for the billboard to promote the documentary film he's producing.

Township spokeswoman Natalie Pineiro said Tuesday that people began noticing the billboard late last

week and that she returned to work on Monday to find "dozens" of voicemails from residents. Pineiro said there were more than 100 comments on the town's

Facebook page.

The response has been "overwhelmingly negative," Pineiro said. She added that she wasn't sure how long the billboard was expected to

stay up.

OutFront Media, the company that rents space on the billboard, didn't immediately return a message on Tuesday.

Ariana Grande will perform at Aretha Franklin's funeral

NEW YORK (AP)—Ariana Grande will be among the performers who will pay tribute to Aretha Franklin at her funeral Friday.

Grande will be among entertainers Steve Wonder, Jennifer Hudson, Fantasia, Faith Hill, Shirley Caesar, Chaka

Khan and more. Franklin's rep, Gwendolyn Quinn, says Franklin met Grande when the two performed at the White House in 2014 for then President Barack Obama and first lady Michelle Obama as part of the "Women of Soul" concert. Quinn says Frank-

lin enjoyed meeting Grande at the time. Franklin's family was moved by Grande's performance of "(You Make Me Feel Like) A Natural Woman" after Franklin's Aug. 16 death.

Grande performed the song with The Roots on "The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon."

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Louis C.K. performs after admitting sexual misconduct

NEW YORK (AP)—Comedian Louis C.K. has returned to the stage for apparently the first time after he admitted to engaging in sexual misconduct. He made an unannounced appearance Sunday night at the Comedy Cellar in New York City's Greenwich Village. The club's owner, Noam Dworman, told the New York Times he watched a video of the appearance. He says the 50-year-old was "very relaxed" and was greeted by an ovation from the audience. He says he performed "typical Louis C.K. stuff." Five women last November accused the comedian of inappropriate behavior. He released a statement in which he said the stories were true and he expressed remorse for his actions. The actions resulted in the end of a production deal with FX Networks and the cancellation of a movie release.

Poet Sonia Sanchez wins \$100,000 prize

NEW YORK (AP)—Poet and author Sonia Sanchez has won a \$100,000 lifetime achievement prize. The Academy of American Poets announced Tuesday that Sanchez is this year's winner of the Wallace Stevens Award. Sanchez, 83, is known for such collections as "Shake Loose My Skin: New and Selected Poems." Also Tuesday, the academy awarded a \$25,000 fellowship to the poet-translator Martin Espada. Craig Morgan Teicher's "The Trembling Answers" won the \$25,000 Lenore Marshall Poetry Prize and Geoffrey Davis' "Night Angler" won the \$5,000 James Laughlin Award for an outstanding second book of poetry. Anthony Molino's work on Paolo Febraro's "The Diary of Kaspar Hauser" brought him a \$10,000 prize for translation. John Bosworth's poem "A Boy Can Wear a Dress" brought him a \$1,000 award for most promising young poet.

Rotten Tomatoes takes steps to diversify critics pool

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Film review aggregator Rotten Tomatoes is attempting to diversify its film critic pool after a recent study found the site's reviews of top-grossing movies were heavily male-dominated. The company says Tuesday it's expanding criteria to be a "Tomatometer-approved critic" and giving \$100,000 to non-profit organizations to help offset the cost of attending film festivals. The first \$25,000 is going toward sending critics to the Toronto International Film Festival in September. An Anenberg Inclusion Initiative survey of Rotten Tomatoes-complied reviews for last year's top box-office hits found that nearly 80 percent of critics were male. Rotten Tomatoes executives say the company is committed to advancing inclusion in criticism. The company will now look at an individual's body of work, including on new media platforms, instead of a critic's outlet or employer.

11-year-old girl gets heart transplant after visit by Drake

CHICAGO (AP)—A suburban Chicago girl has received a heart transplant just days after she danced her way into a hospital visit from Drake.

Surgeons performed the transplant on 11-year-old Sofia Sanchez on Monday at Chicago's Lurie Children's Hospital. The Canadian rapper visited Sofia there after seeing a video of her dancing in a hospital hallway to his song, "In My Feelings." The video inspired a viral dance craze.

Cardiovascular surgeon Carl Backer says Sofia's nine-hour surgery went extremely well, although the first 48 hours after are critical.

A Facebook video shows Sofia being told of the transplant on Sunday and then exclaiming "I'm getting a heart, Mom? Oh my God!"



This Monday, Aug. 20, 2018 photo provided by the rapper Drake shows him posing with Sofia Sanchez, at Lurie Children's Hospital in Chicago. AP

Chris Stapleton tops list of nominees for CMA Awards

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP)—Chris Stapleton topped the list of finalists Tuesday with five nominations for the 52nd annual Country Music Association Awards.

Stapleton is vying for entertainer of the year, male vocalist of the year, single of the year for "Broken Halos," album of the year for "From A Room: Volume 2" and song of the year for "Broken Halos." It was his third nomination for entertainer of the year and fourth consecutive for male vocalist.

Producer and musician Dann Huff received four nominations,

including musician of the year, single of the year for "Drinkin' Problem," album of the year for "Graftiti U," and album of the year for "Life Changes." Huff has won musician of the year three other times.

Jason Aldean, Dierks Bentley, Dan + Shay, Florida Georgia Line, Chris Janson, Miranda Lambert, Midland, Thomas Rhett and Keith Urban each received three nominations. This is Urban's 14th nomination for male vocalist of the year.

The year's biggest country song, "Meant To Be," by pop-country crossover artist Bebe

Rexha and Florida Georgia Line was nominated for single of the year. Other nominees in that category were Stapleton's "Broken Halos," "Drinkin' Problem" by Midland, Aldean's "Drowns the Whiskey" featuring Miranda Lambert, and D + Shay's "Tequila."

Lauren Alaina, Luke Combs, Chris Janson, Midland and Brett Young were nominated for new artist.

The nominations were announced from entertainer Luke Bryan's restaurant and bar in Nashville on ABC's "Good Morning America."

Dad disapproves of toking in backyard at kid's party

DEAR ABBY: My wife and I know a couple whose daughter has been our daughter's playmate since they were 3 months old. They are pleasant and welcoming. We all get along well and have gone to dinner, ball games and musicals together. However, when we go to their home for a gathering, the father will slip off with a few of his old friends and smoke pot on the back porch while the kids are playing inside. It's their home, and marijuana is legal in our state.

Their daughter's 4th birthday party took place last weekend, and once again, with numerous children running around, they slipped out for a toke before the cake was served. This may seem prudish, but I don't want my daughter in a situation where she might be exposed to this, or think that we think smoking marijuana is perfectly normal.

I enjoy spending time with this family, but I don't think I want to visit their home if this is what I can expect. What should we do?

MYSTIFIED IN MASSACHUSETTS

DEAR MYSTIFIED: Because you prefer your little girl not be exposed to the kind of behavior you have observed in this couple's home, call a halt to her going there to play. Invite the other child to your home instead. If your friends ask why, explain it just as you explained it to me.

As parents, it's your job to protect her from influences you feel are not healthy or appropriate for her. Because pot is legal in your state, this will be something you may have to

revisit again in the future.

DEAR ABBY: "Fred" and I have been in a relationship for 10 years. During that time he has broken up with me six times. It's always over something trivial, and it's always my job to smooth things over and get us back together.

When we are together we have a good time, but I never know when the next breakup will happen. I love Fred, and he claims to love me. What's your opinion of a man who constantly does this?

PERPLEXED WIDOW IN FLORIDA

DEAR PERPLEXED: Fred may love you, but his definition of love and yours are different. He may be afraid of intimacy or not want to marry you—which is why he breaks up with you when he feels you are getting too close.

If all you want is a good time, and you're willing to do all the work in the relationship, this may be enough for you. However, if it isn't, then 10 years is more than enough time to invest in someone who treats you the way Fred does.

DEAR ABBY: About five years ago, a co-worker married a woman with four kids. Now, all he does is talk about one of the kids or his wife. He tells anyone who will listen about them—even total strangers.

When I pointed out to him a couple of years ago that he was

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

constantly talking about one of the kids, he stopped for a week, and then started talking about another one. Lately it has been all about his wife. I'm sick of it. How do I tell him we're ALL fed up without damaging a 30-year friendship?

STUMPED IN KENTUCKY

DEAR STUMPED: You can't. Obviously, the man's wife and children are the center of his life, and he may not have much else to talk about. Be grateful it isn't politics.

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



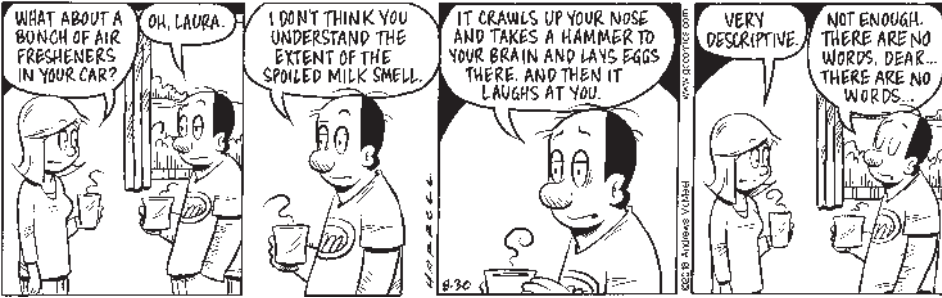
Garfield®

By Jim Davis



Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Regarding

5 Glutton

8 Roundish 'do

12 Tavern order

13 — Victor

14 Incursion

15 Vogue rival

16 Squeak stopper

17 Dressed

18 Candle fat

20 Stable enclosures

22 NBC sketch show

23 "Bow-wow!"

24 Cleopatra's river

27 2000 Juliette Binoche film

32 Monk's title

33 Have a bug

34 Carte lead-in

35 Soaped (up)

38 Dance move

39 Casual shirt

40 Saute

42 Con

45 One of two evils

49 Brownish purple

50 Docs' bloc

52 "Toodlee-oo!"

53 Portent

54 Leg, in slang

55 Wax-coated cheese

56 Hardy lass

57 Expert

58 Citi Field team

DOWN

1 Help a crook

2 Actress

3 Snitch

4 End of a threat

5 Police vehicle

6 Here (Fr.)

7 Guys' dates

8 Jockey

9 Flop

10 Iranian money

11 Probability

19 Atop

21 Tic—-toe

24 Super Bowl org.

25 401(k) alternative

26 Criss-cross patterns

28 Hasten

29 Former beau

30 Pub pint

31 Spigot

36 Mount St. —

37 Moray, for one

38 Method

41 Concerning

42 Espy

43 Actor

44 Long tale

46 "Smooth Operator" singer

47 Coup d'—

48 Farm fathers

51 Buddy

Solution time: 24 mins.

Yesterday's answer 8-30

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Andy Roddick, 36; Lisa Ling, 45; Cameron Diaz, 46; Michael Chiklis, 55.

Happy Birthday: Know what you are up against this year, and do the necessary groundwork that will provide you with a clear passage to bring about the changes that will make your life better. Enrich your knowledge and skills by looking to experts and using the best and most efficient means to reach your set goals. Put emotions on the back burner. Your numbers are 7, 15, 22, 28, 30, 37, 46.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Use your wit and charm to overcome any controversy you face. Getting along with your peers and friends will make it easier to get the help you need to get things done on time. Energy and enthusiasm are the answer, not anger. ★★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Dig in and take care of your responsibilities. If you aren't sure what to do, ask an expert. Learn as you go and be open to change. Opportunity will come your way if you are easy to get along with. ★★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Someone will not be honest with you. Listen and ask questions; you'll be able to decipher what's fact and what's fiction. Problems with a child, lover or friend should be taken seriously, but also handled with diplomacy. ★★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Keep emotions out of your professional or financial deals. Look at the practical aspect of whatever situation or partnership you face,

and make a focused effort to do what's right and best for everyone. Refuse to let anyone meddle in your affairs. ★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): A simple, direct approach is favored. If you want to enforce change, make sure it's doable before you share your plans. Overstepping your boundaries will cause a dispute. Diplomacy and charm will help you get your way. ★★★★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Take better care of your health and emotional states of mind. Address issues quickly to avoid undue stress. Get help if you feel you need to talk to an expert. Make personal changes that will improve your lifestyle. ★★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Look for alternative ways to do things. Being ready for opposition or setbacks will help you remain in control. If you need help, ask. Being open with someone you share space, finances or pursuits with will encourage success. ★★★

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Think before you say or do something you regret. Get the facts and filter through them carefully before you indulge in a verbal scrimmage with someone who may be privy to more information than you. Focus inward and on creative endeavors. ★★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Share with someone you love to spend time with. The plans you make will give you something to look forward to. Don't let anyone disrupt your plans using emotional manipulation or jealousy to make you feel bad. ★★★★★

EUGENIA LAST THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY



CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Clear the air before you try to start something new. Deal with feelings and situations that could stand in your way as you move forward. Be open to change and be willing to listen, and new opportunities will unfold. ★★

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Put more time and effort into personal gains. Invest in yourself and the way you present yourself. If you look and feel good, you will send a positive message that will open doors. A partnership can be revised to better suit your needs. ★★★★★

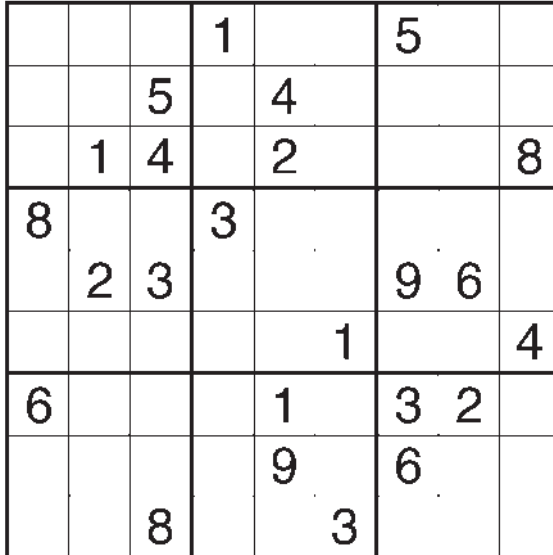
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Size up your situation, decide what you want to do and make it happen. Take control instead of waiting to see what someone else is going to do. If you forge ahead and step up your game, others will respond. ★★★

Birthday Baby: You are imaginative, outgoing and loving. You are flexible and opportunistic.

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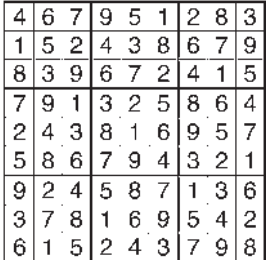
SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green



Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Last Friday's Answer



Difficulty Level ★★★ 8/30

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WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

ACUPRESSURE Solution: 7 letters



Alternative, Apply, Balance, Body, Breathe, Calm, Circulate, Cool, Ears, Elbow, Energy, Facial, Fingers, Flow, Foot, Gentle, Hand, Head, Heal, Heat, Holistic, Joint, Knees, Massage, Mind, Muscle, Neck, Nerve, Organ, Oxygen, Palm, Palpate, Points, Reflex, Relief, Roller, Skin, Sleep, Soft, Stimulate, Stretch, Surface, Therapy, Tissue, Toes, Unwind, Vital, Wrist
Yesterday's Answer: Chow Down
The NEW Volume 54 can be purchased online at www.WonderWordBooks.co.uk, or call 1-800-642-6430.


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Closing date: **September 14, 2018**

Positions: (2) Custodial-I (Saipan)
(1) Vessel Traffic Controller-I (Port of Saipan)
(1) AOA Controller/Ground Maintenance-I (Rota)

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Detailed information on qualifications and position description for the above positions shall be picked up along with the application form from Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., except on holidays, at the CPA's Administration Office (2nd Floor) of the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, Arrival Terminal or CPA Admin. Office at the West Tinian International Airport or at the Benjamin T. Manglona Rota International Airport. For additional information, please contact the CPA Human Resources Office by email at lorna.tenorio@cpa.gov.mp or cpa.boardsec@pticom.com by phone at (670) 237-6500.

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CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO
Executive Director

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Djokovic in survival mode; Federer wins

NEW YORK (AP)—His cheeks red, hair matted with sweat, Novak Djokovic appeared to be in such distress as he trudged to a changeover on a steamy U.S. Open afternoon that someone suggested it would be a good idea to have a trash can at the ready, just in case he lost his lunch.

Djokovic sat down and removed his shirt. He guzzled water from a plastic bottle. He placed one cold towel around his neck, a second across his lap and a third between his bare upper back and the seat.

He was not even 1½ hours into his first match at Flushing Meadows in two years, and while Djokovic eventually would get past Marton Fucsovics 6-3, 3-6, 6-4, 6-0 Tuesday, it was a bit of an ordeal.

“Survival mode,” Djokovic called it.

With the temperature topping 95 degrees (33 Celsius) and the humidity approaching 50 percent—and that combination making it feel more like 105 (40 C)—nearly everything became a struggle for every player across the grounds on Day 2 of the U.S. Open, so much so that no fewer than six quit their matches, with five citing cramps or heat exhaustion.

About 2 hours into the day’s schedule, the U.S. Tennis Association decided to do something it never had at this tournament: offer men the chance to take a 10-minute break before the fourth set if a match went that far. That is similar to the existing rule for women, which allows for 10 minutes of rest before a third set when there is excessive heat.



AP
Novak Djokovic of Serbia returns a shot to Marton Fucsovics of Hungary during the first round of the U.S. Open tennis tournament, Tuesday, Aug. 28, 2018, in New York.

The whole thing raised several questions: Should the genders have the same rules moving forward? Should the U.S. Open avoid having matches during the hottest part of the day, not just for the players’ sake but also to help spectators? Should the men play best-of-three-set matches at majors, instead of best-of-

five? Should the 25-second serve clock, making its Grand Slam debut here, be shut off to let players have more time to recover between points?

“At the end of the day, the ATP or a lot of the supervisors, they’re kind of sitting in their offices, where (there’s)

an A.C. system on, where it’s cool. And we have to be out there. They tell us it’s fine; they’re not the ones playing,” said No. 4 seed Alexander Zverev, who won in straight sets in the early evening, when it was far less harsh. “For sure, the rule should be more strict.

There should be a certain temperature, certain conditions where we shouldn’t be playing.”

How bad was it out there at its worst Tuesday?

“Bloody hot,” said two-time major semifinalist Johanna Konta, who lost 6-2, 6-2 to No. 6 Caroline Garcia.

“Brutal,” said 2014 U.S. Open champion Marin Cilic, who advanced when his opponent retired in the third set.

“Really not easy,” said three-time Grand Slam title winner Angelique Kerber, who defeated Margarita Gasparyan 7-6 (5), 6-3.

“Terrible. It’s awful out there,” said Tennys Sandgren, an American who won in straight sets and will face Djokovic in the second round. “I don’t know how guys are hanging in there. I was thinking in the third set, like, ‘It’s getting really bad. I just don’t know how long I have to play out there.’ And I think everybody kind of feels similarly.”

Djokovic certainly did. “Everything is boiling—in your body, the brain, everything,” said Djokovic, who’s won two of his 13 Grand Slam titles in New York but sat out last year’s U.S. Open because of an injured right elbow.

He is a popular pick to hoist the trophy again, coming off a Wimbledon title in July and a victory over Roger Federer

in the final of the hard-court Cincinnati Masters in August. Federer was among those lucky enough to play a night match Tuesday, beating Yoshihito Nishioka of Japan 6-2, 6-2, 6-4. Federer’s third-round opponent could be the entertaining, if mercurial, Nick Kyrgios, the 30th-seeded Australian who had 25 aces and 14 double-faults while defeating Radu Albot 7-5, 2-6, 6-4, 6-2.

In the last match on Ashe, 2017 runner-up Madison Keys advanced with a 6-4, 6-4 victory over 71st-ranked Pauline Parmentier of France. The final match of Day 2 was in Louis Armstrong Stadium, where five-time major champion Maria Sharapova got past 39-year-old Patty Schnyder 6-2, 7-6 (6). Schnyder, who retired in 2011 but is now back on tour, was the oldest woman to qualify for a Grand Slam tournament.

Djokovic was appreciative of the chance for a chance to recover a bit after the third set. He even took about a minute for a quick ice bath—as did Fucsovics, nearby.

“Naked in the ice baths, next to each other,” Djokovic said. “It was quite a magnificent feeling, I must say.”

Because action began at 11 a.m., and the USTA implemented the heat rule for men at about 1 p.m., those playing in the earliest matches weren’t able to get that sort of relief.

That included Italy’s Stefano Travaglia, who quit in the fourth set of his match after feeling dizzy and cramps. Afterward, he said, he could barely walk.

“My head was spinning. ... I didn’t have any energy. I saw four balls when I swung. It was a terrible feeling. I couldn’t stay on court,” he said. “There was no sense in continuing. Things probably would have gotten worse. I probably would have hurt myself.”

Travaglia also thought it wasn’t fair that the USTA’s decision to offer the 10-minute breaks came too late for him.

“We all should play with the same rules in this sport. Unfortunately, they don’t ask (players) anything, and they decide,” he said. “If they’re going to have a break, they need to say so in the morning, before matches begin — not after I almost was going to pass out because my blood pressure was so low.

Koepka inches closer to Johnson at world No. 1



NEW YORK (AP)—Heading into the Dell Technologies Championship, the top spot in the Official World Golf Ranking is essentially a toss-up.

Fresh off his second major title of the year, Brooks Koepka tied for eighth at The Northern Trust. That allowed him to make slight gains on world No. 1 Dustin Johnson, who tied for 11th to barely keep Koepka from summing the OWGR for the first time in his career. As the PGA Tour heads to TPC Boston, Johnson’s point average is 10.0967 while Koepka is now at 10.0049.

Johnson has been No. 1 since February 2017, outside of a four-week stretch this summer when he was supplanted by Justin Thomas.

Bryson DeChambeau’s

four-shot win at Ridgewood Country Club took him to the top of the FedEx race, while it also moved him up nine spots to a career-best 12th in the world rankings. Tony Finau, who finished second behind DeChambeau, jumped from 30th to 18th in the latest rankings.

Billy Horschel went from 92nd to 66th with a T-3 finish, while T-5 results moved Adam Scott from 44th to 38th, Aaron Wise from 68th to 52nd and Ryan Palmer from 138th to 98th.

With Johnson, Koepka and Thomas still holding the top three spots, Justin Rose and Jon Rahm round out the top five. Francesco Molinari and Rory McIlroy remain Nos. 6 and 7, while Rickie Fowler edged past Jordan Spieth at No. 8. Spieth dropped to No. 9, his lowest ranking since March 2015, with Jason Day rounding out the top 10.

After a T-40 finish in New Jersey, Tiger Woods remained No. 26.

With the Tour again grouping the field by FedExCup standing, Woods and Marc Leishman will play the first two rounds together as they did at The Northern Trust. Woods is playing Boston for the first time since a T-65 finish in 2013, while he and Leishman will be joined by Reavie who finished second in back-to-back weeks this season at Pebble Beach and TPC Scottsdale.

With Woods’ group going off the back nine in the opening round, Spieth will headline the group starting at the same time on No. 1 as he looks to ensure he’ll have a spot at the 30-man Tour Championship. Joining him will be Schauffele, last year’s Rookie of the Year who still has Ryder Cup aspirations,

and Snedeker, who shot a 59 en route to victory two weeks ago but withdrew last week because of a back injury.

Meanwhile, Rickie Fowler will miss a second consecutive FedEx Cup Playoffs event as he continues to recover from an oblique injury ahead of next month’s Ryder Cup.

Fowler has withdrawn from this weekend’s Dell Technologies Championship at TPC Boston, an event he won in 2015.

He fell from 17th to 22nd in the FedEx Cup standings after sitting out The Northern Trust. The Top 30 players make the year-end Tour Championship at East Lake.

The Ryder Cup will be played a week later in Paris, and Fowler is focused as much on being healthy for that event as he is making a strong showing on the remaining Tour schedule.

Red Sox snap skid, nip Marlins in 9th



BOSTON
(AP)—The Boston Red Sox avoided their first four-game losing streak of the season—barely.

J.D. Martinez scored when Marlins shortstop JT Riddle threw away a potential double-play ball in the ninth inning, lifting Boston over Miami 8-7 on Tuesday night following a wild, back-and-forth final two innings.

“It was pretty amazing that we were able to pull off a win tonight,” said Jackie Bradley Jr., who had two hits and two RBIs. “I don’t believe in ugly wins. I believe in wins. As long as we continue to win, I don’t care how ugly it is.”

This one helped the Red Sox hold steady atop the AL East with a 6 1/2 game lead over the Yankees, who got a walkoff homer from Neil Walker to beat the Chicago White Sox 5-4.

Miami scored five runs in the eighth inning to lead 6-4, allowed three runs to Boston in the bottom of the inning, then tied the game at 7 in the top of the ninth against closer Craig Kimbrel (4-1).

“We didn’t pitch well of the last third of the game, but we swung the bats well and we ended up winning,” manager Alex Cora said. “We took advantage of their mistakes.”

Martinez started the final rally on a one-out single and went to second on Xander Bogaerts’ hit.

Eduardo Nunez followed with a grounder to Riddle, who stepped on second but sailed his throw well past first baseman J.T. Realmuto, and Martinez came around with the winning run.

“It’s a two hopper—step on the bag and throw the ball to first. As simple as that,” Riddle said. “I throw the ball 80 feet and lose the game.”

Drew Steckenrider (4-3) was stuck with the loss.

Nunez homered in the sixth to put Boston ahead 4-1, a lead that held until Matt Barnes’ melted down in the eighth. Realmuto and Starlin Castro hit back-to-back home runs during the five-run inning, which also included a two-run single by Rafael Ortega.

“Obviously the ending was not very good, but it was kind of the way we played all night,” Marlins manager Don Mattingly said.

Before batting around in the eighth, Miami’s only score came on Isaac Galloway’s solo homer in the third.

Bradley hit a two-run single with two outs in the eighth off Marlins reliever Tayron Guerrero, and Ian Kinsler then scored on Guerrero’s wild pitch to take a 7-6 lead.



Boston Red Sox's Mookie Betts dives home as he scores on a sacrifice by Xander Bogaerts during the third inning of a baseball game against the Miami Marlins at Fenway Park in Boston, Tuesday, Aug. 28, 2018. AP

Rockies 3, Angels 2

In Anaheim, Carlos Gonzalez can’t wait for September and the thrill of a tight playoff race.

He hit a two-run homer in the first inning and the Colorado Rockies beat the Los Angeles Angels to split their series.

The Rockies moved into a tie with Arizona atop the NL West standings after the Diamondbacks lost to the Giants.

“It’s going to be fun,” Gonzalez said. “It’s going to be a big month ahead of us and every team in this division. We’re going to face each other a lot and it’s going to be a long stretch facing division rivals. We’re excited and ready for the challenge.”

Kyle Freeland (12-7) allowed one run and five hits in six innings. The left-hander struck out six and walked two in his first career start against the Angels.

Giants 1, Diamondbacks 0

In San Francisco, the Arizona Diamondbacks are costing themselves crucial late-season wins by missing scoring opportunities.

Two straight shutouts by the San Francisco Giants and Arizona dropped into a first-place tie with Colorado in the NL West.

Pinch-hitter Gorkys Hernandez singled home the winning run with one out in the ninth inning, lifting the Giants to a 1-0 win on Tuesday night.

“We’ve got a long way to go. We can’t win it today and we can’t win it tomorrow,” manager Torey Lovullo said. “We’ve got to play good base-

ball for another 30-plus days. Our guys are battle-tested. They’re smart, they’re aggressive, they’re tough, and I want them to remember that.”

Nationals 5, Phillies 4

In Philadelphia, pinch-running pitcher Vince Velasquez was called out for leaving second base early while tagging up, resulting in a game-ending double play that gave the Washington Nationals a win over the Phillies.

After Aaron Nola out-pitched Max Scherzer for the second time in six days in a matchup of NL Cy Young Award contenders, the Phillies watched Washington rally for three runs in the ninth to take a 5-3 lead.

Ramos got Philadelphia within a run with a pinch-hit double in the ninth, and Velasquez pinch-ran for the catcher. Greg Holland relieved and retired Jorge Alfaro on a flyball to center, with Velasquez moving to third as the potential tying run.

Athletics 4, Astros 3

In Houston, Nick Martini hit a tiebreaking double in the ninth inning and the Athletics defeated Houston, snapping the Astros’ six-game winning streak.

The A’s moved within 1 1/2 games of the AL West-leading Astros.

Ramon Laureano drew a one-out walk from Roberto Osuna (1-2), Jonathan Lucroy singled and Martini followed with his double.

Jeury Familia (8-4) pitched a scoreless eighth. Blake

Treinen worked a perfect ninth for his 33rd save.

Braves 9, Rays 5

In Atlanta, pinch-runner Adam Duvall scored the tiebreaking run on a delayed dash from third base in Atlanta’s four-run eighth inning, and the Braves beat Tampa Bay to snap the Rays’ eight-game winning streak.

Chaz Roe (1-3) walked Kurt Suzuki to open the eighth. Suzuki advanced to third on Ozzie Albies’ third hit, a double to the right-field corner.

Duvall, running for Suzuki, initially remained at third base on Dansby Swanson’s ground-out to second. When first baseman Jake Bauers looked to possibly throw to second, where Albies was standing off the bag, Duvall took off in a desperate sprint for the plate.

Home plate umpire Chad Fairchild called Duvall safe on his slide under the tag of catcher Michael Perez, beating Bauers’ throw to the plate. A video review lasting 1 minute, 45 seconds, confirmed the call.

Yankees 5, White Sox 4

In New York, pinch-hitter Neil Walker connected for a solo home run in the bottom of the ninth inning, and the New York Yankees rallied from a four-run deficit to defeat the Chicago White Sox.

Aaron Hicks hit a tying homer in the eighth and rookie Miguel Andujar also had a two-run shot to help the injury-depleted Yankees win for the ninth time in 11 games.

With the second-best record in the majors, they began the night 6 1/2 games behind first-place Boston in the AL East.

Orioles 12, Blue Jays 5

In Baltimore, Josh Rogers won his major league debut, Tim Beckham hit a three-run homer and the Orioles rolled over the Blue Jays.

Rogers, acquired from the Yankees for closer Zach Britton in July, allowed three runs and seven hits with two strikeouts and a walk over five innings. He was the first left-handed pitcher to start a game for Baltimore this season.

Craig Gentry went 3 for 5 with his first home run and three RBIs for the Orioles, who won consecutive games for the first time this month.

Indians 8, Twins 1

In Cleveland, Carlos Carrasco struck out 11 and withstood another scary Minnesota line drive, pitching the Indians past the Twins.

Francisco Lindor matched a career high with four hits while Jose Ramirez drove in three runs for the AL Central leaders.

Carrasco (16-7) allowed four hits in 7 2/3 innings. He is tied for second in the majors in wins, one behind Luis Severino of the Yankees.

Royals 6, Tigers 2

In Kansas City, Jakob Junis held scuffling Detroit to six hits in his first career complete game, Adalberto Mondesi homered to spur a five-run frame and the Royals beat the Tigers.

The only runs Junis (7-12) allowed came in the third, when Jeimer Candelario managed a sacrifice fly, and the eighth, when JaCoby Jones went deep. Otherwise, the Royals’ young right-hander was brisk and efficient, striking out seven without a walk to win for only the second time since May 18.

Reds 9, Brewers 7

In Cincinnati, Jose Peraza started Junior Guerra’s rough outing with a two-run homer, and the Cincinnati Reds withstood Christian Yelich’s first multihomer game.

Since trailing the Cubs by a game on Aug. 4, Milwaukee has gone 8-11 and slid to third in the NL Central.

The Reds ended a five-game losing streak by taking advantage of Guerra (6-9), who gave up six runs and faced only 13 batters in his shortest outing of the season. Peraza had two of his four hits off Guerra, who threw 45 pitches.

Dodgers 8, Rangers 4

In Arlington, Manny Machado drove in four runs, Brian Dozier hit his 20th homer of the season and the Los Angeles Dodgers beat the Rangers for their fourth win in a row.

Machado’s four RBIs were the most in his 36 games for the Dodgers since being acquired from the Baltimore Orioles last month. The shortstop put Los Angeles ahead to stay with a two-run single in the third, then added a sac fly in the fourth and an RBI single in the sixth. He has nine RBIs the past three games.

Wentz or Foles? Eagles coach isn't saying yet

PHILADELPHIA (AP)—Eagles coach Doug Pederson doesn't plan to reveal whether Carson Wentz or Super Bowl MVP Nick Foles will start the season opener until 90 minutes before the game.

Wentz has been recovering from surgery last December to repair a torn ACL and LCL in his left knee. He is practicing, but hasn't been medically cleared for contact.

"I've made comments that his arm was live and throwing some really, really nice throws and very strong," Pederson said Tuesday. "Then when he came back into the 11-on-11, one of the noticeable changes again, or differences, was just his lower body strength and how well he's progressed through his rehab and conditioning."

Foles struggled in two preseason games and won't play Thursday night against the



New York Jets. The offense didn't score any points on 14 drives with Foles under center in the preseason. However, he was missing nearly all starters at the skill positions.

Pederson indicated he

would make a decision Friday, but doesn't plan to disclose which quarterback will line up when Philadelphia hosts the Atlanta Falcons on Sept. 6 until game day.

"This is still preseason and

we're giving all our quarterbacks reps at this time," Pederson said. "When you get into the regular season and start game planning, then you want whoever that gentlemen is going to be, to take the full

Philadelphia Eagles quarterbacks, from right, Carson Wentz (11) Nick Foles (9), Nate Sudfeld (7), and Joe Callahan (3) run a drill during NFL football training camp Friday, July 27, 2018 in Philadelphia.

complement of reps."

Meanwhile, the Eagles start on top of first AP Pro 32 poll of 2018 season

Led by Foles, the Philadelphia Eagles won their first Super Bowl last season with a 41-33 victory over the New England Patriots.

The Patriots are the most recent team to win consecutive championships, winning Super Bowls 38 and 39.

And the Eagles will start their quest as the top team in the first AP Pro 32 poll of the 2018 season.

The Eagles received six of the 12 first-place votes and 367 points in balloting by media members who regularly cover the NFL.

The Patriots, who have been to eight Super Bowls in the Tom Brady and Bill Belichick era, were a close second—just

as they were in the loss to the Eagles in Minneapolis. The Patriots received three first-place votes and finished with 366 points.

"As long as the Killer B's, Brady and Belichick, reside in Foxborough, the Pats will loom as the team to beat," said Ira Kaufman of SB Nation Radio.

The Minnesota Vikings, who lost to the Eagles in the NFC championship game, are No. 3. The Vikings added quarterback Kirk Cousins in the offseason to a team with high expectations.

"Is Kirk Cousins the answer? That's the only question about this team," Pro Football Talk's Charean Williams said.

The Los Angeles Rams, who won the NFC West last season, earned two first-place votes and are No. 4.

"(Brandin) Cooks dynamite in new offense," Fox Sports' John Czarnecki said of the speedy wide receiver who had 1,082 yards last season in New England.

The Pittsburgh Steelers, who have won three of the past four AFC North titles, are No. 5.

Tinian Cliff Fishing Derby set Oct. 19-21

The opportunities for sport fishing in The Marianas continue to grow with the staging of the 2018 Tinian Cliff Fishing Derby from Oct. 19-21.

The derby comes on the heels of the Marianas Fishing & Seafood Festival in June, the Saipan International Fishing Tournament, and Tinian Youth International Fishing Tournament in July, and Rota Cliff Fishing Derby in August. All are co-sponsored by the Marianas Visitors Authority as an opportunity to attract more fishermen to the islands. The MVA is taking the lead in reviving the October derby on Tinian.

"The Tinian Cliff Fishing

Derby was shelved many years ago due to austerity," said MVA Field Operations supervisor Vida Borja. "We're happy to bring it back for local and visiting fishermen!"

The designated derby fishing sites for the Tinian Cliff Fishing Derby will be Puntan-Diablo, Fleming Point 1, and Fleming Point 2. Registration is \$25. Derby orientation will be at 5pm on Oct. 19, followed by the derby, which will end on Oct. 21 at 10am and will be followed by an island-style awards banquet the same day.

"At one time, sport fishing was a small but impor-

tant niche market for The Marianas, and we would like to see that increase again," said MVA Community Projects manager Martin Duenas. "We invite all fishermen from Saipan, Rota, Guam, and the area to enjoy a great weekend of fishing on Tinian in October. It's a great excuse to visit Tinian for the weekend."

Cash prizes will be awarded for the most variety, biggest fish, and total weight. In each category, the MVA will award \$300 for first place, \$200 for second, and \$100 for third.

The weekend event is co-organized by the MVA, 16th Tinian Municipal Council,

and Tinian Mayor's Office with additional support from other government agencies, and MVA members.

For more information, visit The Marianas Calendar at www.mymarianas.com or contact MVA Field Operations supervisor Vida Borja at vborja@mymarianas.com or call 1-670-433-9365.

Commuter flights from Saipan to Tinian run throughout the day via Star Marianas. Accommodations are available at Tinian Ocean View Hotel, Lorrilyn's Hotel, Fleming Hotel, Green Lion House, and Tinian Street Motel. Car rentals are available from Avis and Islander Rent-A-Car. (PR)

SBL

From Page 28

The standoff, according to SBL coordinator Tony Rogolifoi, then had to be decided via draw after the Mariners and Aces still ended up in a deadlock following three tiebreaking criteria: head-to-head; total runs allowed; and runs ratio.

With the Aces getting the No. 4 spot, they will have to stop the Bears, who are on a rampage, as the latter was undefeated in the second round

of the regular season. The Bears swept Round 2 after routing the Indians, 11-1, in a make-up game last Monday. The pennant champions finished the elimination with an impressive 17-1 record, and have yet to taste defeat for about five months. Incidentally, the Bears' lone loss in the regular season was against the Aces, who cruised to a 14-4 victory in their March 9 duel.

The Aces are the next-hot-test team in the second round

of the elimination, winning six of their last eight matches to keep their bid for back-to-back titles alive.

Meanwhile, the other semis pairing will have Go See Mark (13-6) meeting the Mariners. GSM has two make-up matches left—against the Indians (scheduled last Thursday) and versus the Blue Jays (last night).

Other make-up matches are Outlaws vs Titanium and Blue Jays versus Outlaws. Though the semis cast has

been set, SBL still opted to play the remaining games to decide the winners in the individual statistics.

SBL is hoping to complete the regular season matches this weekend so it could start the playoffs next week.

Originally, the semis round, which is a best-of-three affair, is supposed to kick off this Friday with the No. 1 Bears and No. 4 Aces playing in the opener. Schedule of Game 1 may likely change to give way to the make-up

matches. However, if SBL will push through with the Bears-Aces opener for this Friday, Game 1 of the Mariners-GSM semis showdown may be played on Monday.

For the finals, opposing teams will face off in a best-of-five series with Game 1 tentatively set for Sept. 10. Games 4 and 5, if necessary, are scheduled for Sept. 13 and 14, as SBL wants to complete the season immediately to start the Masters and U25 competitions.

CUKI

From Page 28

Roberto from Purebred Guam Academy last night (Tuesday). We also had a team meeting with him, as well as discussion on game plan and strategies," Alvarez told *Saipan Tribune*.

The Trench Tech founder added he and group's nine

other members will leave for Japan on Sept. 5. Alvarez will be competing in the brown belt masters 3 division. (146 lbs). Rounding out the Trench Tech delegation to the three-day tournament are Clinton Dela Cruz, Shane "Pikaboo" Alvarez, Vince "The Clinch" Masga, Ken Tanzawa, Paulo Sangalang, Jeffery Garcia,

Giovanni Taitingfong, Kier Agda, and Mark "The Dark" Nuique. Dela Cruz will join the black belt masters 1 146 lbs category; Pikaboo and Masga are in the adult male purple belt 146 lbs division; Tanzawa is in the purple belt 176 lbs; Sangalang and Garcia are competing in the blue belt 146 lbs; Taitingfong is

entered in the blue belt 141 lbs; Agda is participating in the white belt 200lbs; and Nuique is also joining the white belt 146 lbs.

The 10 fighters' trip to Japan is made possible by the generous contributions of the following: Marianas Visitors Authority, Saipan Crew Boats. Inc., FISG, Kaurz Glass,

Mari-Pal Foundation, Mark Blackburn, and Dela Cruz.

Meanwhile, Nuique and two others were promoted last Tuesday night in a brief ceremony led by Roberto.

Nuique received his blue belt, the same recognition that sexagenarian Erin "Doc" Dean got, while Ray "Kimchi Base" Kim was awarded a purple belt.

SWEEP

From Page 28

Today, GCA 1 and 2 part ways as they collide in the 3:30pm game. Also set to meet this afternoon are SCS and SIS at the former's court in Susupe, while MCS will host Agape 2 at its court in Chalan Kanoa.

For the second week of the league, Agape 1 will take on SCS on Sept. 4 at the Agape court in Middle Road, while the two other matches on Tuesday will feature SDA versus MCS at SDA and Agape 2 against GCA at the Torchbear-

ers' court.

For the Wednesday play date, two games will take place with SIS hosting GCA 2 and MCS doing the same when it faces Agape 1. For next Thursday's matches, the pairing are as follows: GCA 1 vs SDA; SIS vs Agape 2; and GCA 2 vs SCS.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES				
MLB STANDINGS				
AMERICAN LEAGUE				
East Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	91	42	.684	—
New York	84	48	.636	6½
Tampa Bay	70	62	.530	20½
Toronto	60	72	.455	30½
Baltimore	39	94	.293	52
Central Division				
Cleveland	75	56	.573	—
Minnesota	61	70	.466	14
Detroit	53	79	.402	22½
Chicago	52	80	.394	23½
Kansas City	41	91	.311	34½
West Division				
Houston	81	51	.614	—
Oakland	80	53	.602	1½
Seattle	74	58	.561	7
Los Angeles	64	69	.481	17½
Texas	58	75	.436	23½
NATIONAL LEAGUE				
East Division				
Atlanta	74	57	.565	—
Philadelphia	70	62	.530	4½
Washington	67	66	.504	8
New York	58	73	.443	16
Miami	53	80	.398	22
Central Division				
Chicago	77	53	.592	—
St. Louis	74	58	.561	4
Milwaukee	73	60	.549	5½
Pittsburgh	64	68	.485	14
Cincinnati	57	75	.432	21
West Division				
Arizona	72	59	.550	—
Colorado	72	60	.545	½
Los Angeles	71	61	.538	1½
San Francisco	66	67	.496	7
San Diego	51	83	.381	22½
BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS				

Agape 1 vs SIS in Middle School Volleyball League

PHOTOS By ROSELYN B. MONROYO



Agape Christian School 1's David Zheng serves to Saipan International School during their first game in the middle school division of the 2018-2019 Commonwealth Coalition of Private Schools Association Volleyball League last Tuesday at the ACS court. Agape won, 25-14, 23-25, 15-9.



An Agape Christian School 1 player hits the ball near the net.



An Agape Christian School 1 player goes for an overhand serve.



Saipan International School's Dylan Mister receives a shot from Agape Christian School 1.



An Agape Christian School 1 player sets up a teammate for the second hit.



An Agape Christian School 1 player makes a return from the back-line.



Saipan International School players get ready for the next play.



Saipan International School coach Mili Saiki huddles with her players after their win in the second set.



**Djokovic in
survival mode;
Federer wins**

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Saipan Tribune Sports

**Red Sox
snap skid,
nip Marlins
in 9th**

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Sweep for GCA; SDA triumphs

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Grace Christian Academy was perfect in the opening day, while Seventh Day Adventist also won its first game in the middle school division of the 2018-2019 Commonwealth Coalition of Private Schools Association Volleyball League.

GCA 1 eased past Saipan Community School at the Eagles court in Navy Hill, getting the outright win after only two sets, 25-2, 25-7. Despite the early victory, GCA 1 and SCS still duelled in the third set to give players from opposing teams more time to play and the latter somehow showed improvement before the Eagles recorded a 25-17 victory.

Kat Saures led GCA's easy win over Saipan Community after registering 7 points off five aces and two spikes. Hye Jin Elliot, Soleil Lamar, Juruel



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Grace Christian Academy 1 players and coach Genesis Prieto huddle before their game against Saipan Community School in the CCPSA middle school volleyball league last Tuesday at the GCA court.

Magtalas, Kean Parajillaga, and Praise Woo also scored in the Eagles' sweep of SCS.

In the other game at the Eagles turf, GCA 2 also made short work of Mt. Carmel School, winning after only two sets.



Over at the SDA court in Chalan Kiya, the host team topped Agape 2. SDA recorded a 25-16 victory in the first set and clinched the win right in the second set after posting a double-digit spread, 25-15. Then in the third set, SDA was still at it,

registering a 15-6 triumph.

SDA capitalized on the erratic plays of Agape 2 to dominate the match.

Meanwhile, SDA was going for its second win yesterday, as it was scheduled to host Agape 1.

See SWEEP on Page 26

SBL semis pairings set

Pennant winner Chalan Kanoa Bears will be pitted against defending champion Aces when the semis round of the 2018

Saipan Baseball League starts, possibly early next month.

The Bears-Aces pairing was decided over the weekend after

league organizers and the 2017 season champs and Mariners agreed to a draw to determine the No. 3 and 4 finishers in

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER



the regular season. The Mariners and Aces wrapped up the double-round robin elimination with similar 12-6 records. The Mariners got win No. 12 off its victory via forfeiture against the ousted Ballistics, while the Aces earned the same number of triumphs after knocking out the Falcons, 14-7.

See SBL on Page 26

JON PEREZ

A Outlaw runner prepares to head home, while the Mariners third baseman waits for the throw during an earlier game in the 2018 Saipan Baseball League at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios. The Mariners are in the semis and will face Go See Mark, while Outlaw was out of contention.



Cuki and company step up preparation

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

With about a week before they compete in the 2018 Asian IBJJF Jiu-Jitsu Championship, Trench Tech fighters' preparation for the Japan tournament got the needed boost.

Cuki Alvarez, who is among the 10 Trench Tech fighters who will participate in the Sept. 7 to 9 competition dubbed as the "Asian Open," said the group had a

productive training session with Purebred Guam Academy's Stephen Roberto last Tuesday night. Roberto is a third degree black belt Brazilian jiu jitsu professor and a three-time Asian Open champion (2010/masters division, 2013/senior 1, and 2015/masters 3).

"We had a great training session with our 3rd degree black belt professor Stephen

See CUKI on Page 26



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Purebred Guam Academy's Stephen Roberto gestures to Trench Tech BJJ practitioners during a break in their training session last Tuesday night at the Trench Tech Gym in Garapan.